Exercises in Algebraic Topology (master)

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Summer term 2025

Exercise sheet no 11 due: 24th of June 2025, 13:45h in H3

1 (Orientation covering) (2 + 3 + 2 + 2 points)

Let M be an m-dimensional connected topological manifold.

a) Prove that there is an oriented manifold $\hat{M}$ and a 2-fold covering $p\colon \hat{M} \to M$ called the *orientation covering* of M.

b) Are the following statements equivalent?

(1) M is orientable.

(2) The orientation covering is a trivial covering, *i.e.*, $\hat{M} \cong M \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ as spaces over M.

c) Assume that M is finite dimensional, path connected with $\pi_1(M) = 1$. Is M orientable?

d) What is the orientation covering of $\mathbb{R}P^n$ for even n? What about the Klein bottle?

2 (Non-orientable surfaces) (2 points)

You know the spaces N_g from Exercise 6.4. We called N_g the *non-orientable* surface of genus g. Justify that name.

3 (Manifolds with boundary) (1 + 1 + 1 points)

Let $\mathbb{R}^m_- := \{(x_1, \ldots, x_m), x_i \in \mathbb{R}, x_1 \leqslant 0\}$ be an m-dimensional half-space. Its topological boundary is

$$\partial\mathbb{R}^m_- = \{(x_1, \ldots, x_m), x_i \in \mathbb{R}, x_1 = 0\}.$$

An m-dimensional topological manifold with boundary, M with ∂M, is a Hausdorff space with a countable basis of its topology together with homeomorphisms $h_i\colon U_i \to V_i$. Here $U_i \subset M$ and $V_i \subset \mathbb{R}^m_-$ are open and the U_i's cover M.

An $x \in M$ is a boundary point of M if there is a homeomorphism $h\colon U \to V$ with U open in M, V open in $\mathbb{R}^m_-$, $x \in U$ and $h(x)$ in $\partial\mathbb{R}^m_-$. The set of boundary points of M is denoted by ∂M.

What is ∂M in the following examples?

a) $M = [0, 1]$,

b) $M = \mathbb{D}^2 \times \mathbb{S}^1$,

c) $(\mathbb{S}^1 \times \mathbb{S}^1) \setminus \mathring{\mathbb{D}}^2_\epsilon$, where $\mathring{\mathbb{D}}^2_\epsilon$ is a small open 2-disk, that is suitably embedded into the torus.