

Algebraic Topology: Exercises

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Sheet 11, January 11, 2022

Hints. In the following, let $((h_k)_{k \in \mathbb{Z}}, (\partial_k)_{k \in \mathbb{Z}})$ be an ordinary homology theory on Top^2 with values in ${}_{\mathbb{Z}}\text{Mod}$ and $h_0(\bullet) \cong_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}$.

Exercise 1 (surjectivity on homology). Which of the following statements are true for all continuous maps $f: X \rightarrow Y$ of spaces? Justify your answer with a suitable proof or counterexample.

1. If f is surjective, then also $h_{2022}(f): h_{2022}(X) \rightarrow h_{2022}(Y)$ is surjective.
2. If $h_{2022}(f): h_{2022}(X) \rightarrow h_{2022}(Y)$ is surjective, then f is surjective.

Exercise 2 (homology of the real projective plane/the Klein bottle). Let K be the Klein bottle (Sheet 7, Exercise 2).

1. Compute $(h_k(\mathbb{R}P^2))_{k \in \mathbb{Z}}$ or $(h_k(K))_{k \in \mathbb{Z}}$.
2. What changes if the coefficients of $((h_k)_{k \in \mathbb{Z}}, (\partial_k)_{k \in \mathbb{Z}})$ are isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}/2$ instead of \mathbb{Z} ?

Illustrate your arguments in a suitable way!

Exercise 3 (homology vs. homotopy equivalence). Give examples of topological spaces X and Y such that $h_k(X) \cong_{\mathbb{Z}} h_k(Y)$ holds for all $k \in \mathbb{Z}$, but $X \not\cong Y$.

Hints. Dimension 2 is sufficient.

Exercise 4 (algebraic Mayer-Vietoris sequence). Let R be a ring with unit and let

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \cdots & \xrightarrow{c_{k+1}} & A_k & \xrightarrow{a_k} & B_k & \xrightarrow{b_k} & C_k \xrightarrow{c_k} A_{k-1} \xrightarrow{a_{k-1}} \cdots \\
 & & \downarrow f_{A,k} & & \downarrow f_{B,k} & & \downarrow f_{C,k} & & \downarrow f_{A,k-1} \\
 \cdots & \xrightarrow{c'_{k+1}} & A'_k & \xrightarrow{a'_k} & B'_k & \xrightarrow{b'_k} & C'_k \xrightarrow{c'_k} A'_{k-1} \xrightarrow{a'_{k-1}} \cdots
 \end{array}$$

be a (\mathbb{Z} -indexed) commutative ladder in ${}_R\text{Mod}$ with exact rows. Moreover, for every $k \in \mathbb{Z}$, let $f_{C,k}: C_k \rightarrow C'_k$ be an isomorphism and let

$$\Delta_k := c_k \circ f_{C,k}^{-1} \circ b'_k: B'_k \rightarrow A_{k-1}.$$

Show (via a diagram chase) that then the sequence

$$\cdots \xrightarrow{\Delta_{k+1}} A_k \xrightarrow{(f_{A,k}, -a_k)} A'_k \oplus B_k \xrightarrow{a'_k \oplus f_{B,k}} B'_k \xrightarrow{\Delta_k} A_{k-1} \longrightarrow \cdots$$

in ${}_R\text{Mod}$ is exact.

Bonus problem (Abelian categories).

1. Look up the term *Abelian category* in the literature.
2. Give an example for an additive category that is *not* Abelian.
3. How can exact sequences be defined in Abelian categories?
4. What does the Freyd–Mitchell embedding theorem say?

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