

## Part III Algebraic Topology // Example Sheet 4

1. If  $\{C_\bullet(a), \rho_{ab}\}_{a \in I}$  is a direct system of chain complexes, show that  $H_k(\lim_{\rightarrow} C_\bullet(a)) = \lim_{\rightarrow} H_k(C_\bullet(a))$ . Deduce that a direct limit of exact sequences is exact.
2. (a) Which of the following are  $\mathbb{Z}$ -orientable? (i)  $\mathbb{R}\mathbb{P}^3$  (ii)  $\mathbb{R}\mathbb{P}^2 \times \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$  (iii)  $K \# T^2$ , where  $K$  is the Klein bottle ( $\#$  denotes connect sum).  
(b) Prove that any manifold has a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -orientable double cover.
3. If  $M$  is a connected compact  $d$ -manifold and  $x \in M$ , show that  $H_d(M \setminus x; \mathbb{F}_2) = 0$ .  
If  $H_d(M; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ , deduce that the restriction map  $\text{res}_x : \mathbb{Z} \cong H_d(M; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H_d(M|x; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$  is injective, and that the index of its image is independent of  $x$ . [*Hint: Show it is locally constant as a function of  $x$ .*] Hence show that  $M$  is  $\mathbb{Z}$ -orientable.
4. (i) Let  $M$  be a compact connected  $\mathbb{Z}$ -oriented  $d$ -manifold. Show that there is a degree one map  $M \rightarrow S^d$ .  
(ii) If  $M$  and  $N$  are compact connected  $\mathbb{Z}$ -oriented manifolds of the same dimension and  $f : M \rightarrow N$  is a map of non-zero degree, is  $f^* : H^*(N; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^*(M; \mathbb{Z})$  necessarily injective?  
(iii) Prove that if a finite group  $G$  acts freely on  $S^n$  then some  $G$ -orbit is not contained in any open hemisphere. [*Hint: Construct a map  $S^n/G \rightarrow S^n$ .*]
5. (a) If  $M$  is a smooth manifold, show that it is equivalent to give an  $R$ -orientation of the manifold  $M$  and an  $R$ -orientation of the vector bundle  $TM$ .  
(b) Let  $V$  be a real  $n$ -dimensional vector space. Show that a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -orientation of  $V$ , meaning a choice of generator of  $H^n(V, V - \{0\}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ , is equivalent to an orientation in the sense of linear algebra, i.e. a choice of ordered basis, where bases differing by a positive determinant matrix are equivalent.  
(c) If  $M$  is  $R$ -oriented and  $Y \subset M$  is a compact submanifold, show an  $R$ -orientation of  $Y$  determines an  $R$ -co-orientation of  $Y$  (i.e. an  $R$ -orientation of its normal bundle).  
(d) If  $M$  is  $R$ -oriented and  $Y, Z \subset M$  are compact  $R$ -oriented submanifolds which meet transversely, show that an ordering of  $Y$  and  $Z$  defines a  $R$ -co-orientation of  $Y \cap Z$ .
6. Show that the only non-trivial cup-products in  $(S^2 \times S^8) \# (S^4 \times S^6)$  are those forced by Poincaré duality. Give an example of a space in which that conclusion would not be true.
7. Let  $f : \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^n$  be a map of degree 8. What can you say about  $n$ ?
8. (a) Show that there is no map from  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$  to itself of degree  $-1$ .  
(b) Show that there is no map from  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2 \times \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$  to itself of degree  $-1$ .
9. (a) Suppose  $Y \subset X$  is a smooth compact submanifold of a smooth compact manifold. Using the tubular neighbourhood theorem, prove  $H_c^*(X \setminus Y) \cong H^*(X, Y)$ .  
(b) Suppose  $M \subset S^d$  is a compact  $(d-1)$ -dimensional smooth submanifold. Show that the complement  $S^d \setminus M$  has one more path component than  $M$  does.  
(c) Suppose  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  is a compact  $(d-1)$ -dimensional smooth submanifold. Show that  $\mathbb{R}^d \setminus M$  consists of a bounded and an unbounded region, and hence that the 1-dimensional normal bundle of  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  is trivial. Describe the degree of the map  $\nu : M \rightarrow S^d$  which assigns to each point its unit outward-pointing normal vector. [*Hint: relate the degree of  $\nu$  to a vector field on  $M$ .*]

10. (i) Show by induction on the dimension that a non-degenerate skew-symmetric bilinear form over  $\mathbb{R}$  is equivalent to a direct sum of copies of the form  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Hence show that any oriented closed 6-manifold  $M$  has  $\dim_{\mathbb{Q}} H_3(M; \mathbb{Q})$  even.

(ii) Let  $V$  be a vector space with a non-degenerate skew form as above. If  $W \subset V$  is *isotropic*, meaning  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle|_{W \times W} \equiv 0$ , show that  $\dim(W) \leq \frac{\dim(V)}{2}$ . What does this say about the cohomology classes defined by a collection of pairwise disjoint 3-dimensional submanifolds of a closed oriented six-manifold?

11. Consider the manifold  $S^m \times \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^1$  with the free involution  $\tau$  defined by  $\tau(x, [z_0, z_1]) := (-x, [\bar{z}_0, \bar{z}_1])$ . Let  $P(m)$  be the quotient space under this involution. Compute the groups  $H^*(P(m); \mathbb{Z})$  and the ring  $H^*(P(m); \mathbb{F}_2)$ . [Hint: find a cell structure to compute the cohomology groups, and use the intersection product to compute the cohomology ring.]

12. Let  $M$  be a compact  $\mathbb{Z}$ -oriented smooth  $d$ -manifold.

(a) If  $f : M \rightarrow M$  be an orientation-preserving smooth map such that  $f^p = \text{Id}_M$ , and the fixed-points of  $f$  form a discrete set, show that

$$\#\{\text{fixed points of } f\} = \sum_{k=0}^d (-1)^k \text{Tr}(f^* : H^k(M; \mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow H^k(M; \mathbb{Q}))$$

and if  $p$  is prime show that  $\#\{\text{fixed points of } f\} \equiv \chi(M) \pmod{p}$ . [Hint: Rational canonical form.]

(b) If the circle group  $S^1$  acts smoothly on  $M$  with discrete fixed set  $M^{S^1}$ , show that  $\#M^{S^1} = \chi(M)$ .

13. Let  $n > 1$ . For a continuous map  $\phi : S^{2n-1} \rightarrow S^n$ , let  $Y_\phi$  be the space obtained by attaching a  $(2n)$ -cell to  $S^n$  via  $\phi$ . Compute  $H^*(Y_\phi)$ . Fixing  $\alpha_i \in H^i(Y_\phi)$  to be generators for  $i \in \{n, 2n\}$ , define  $h(\phi)$  by  $\alpha_n^2 = h(\phi)\alpha_{2n}$ .

(i) If  $\phi$  is homotopic to a constant map, then show that  $h(\phi) = 0$ .

(ii) Let  $n$  be even. Fix a base-point  $e \in S^n$ . By considering the quotient  $(S^n \times S^n)/\sim$  for  $\sim$  the equivalence relation  $(x, e) \sim (e, x) \forall x$ , show that there is a map  $\phi : S^{2n-1} \rightarrow S^n$  with  $h(\phi) = \pm 2$ . Hence show that there are infinitely-many non-homotopic maps from  $S^{2n-1}$  to  $S^n$ .