## Algebraic Topology IV - MOCK EXAM

- 1. Answer all questions true or false. Give a short justification of each answer: this might just be 'result proved in lectures'.
  - (i) Every topological space has a metric giving rise to the topology.
  - (ii)  $\mathcal{T} = \{\emptyset, \{a, b\}, \{b, c\}, X\}$  is a topology on the set  $X = \{a, b, c\}$ .
  - (iii) If X has the discrete topology and  $f: X \to \mathbb{R}^{17}$  then f is continuous.
  - (iv) The open sets in a metric space form a topology.
  - (v)  $\pi_1(\mathbb{R}^2 \{0\}) = \mathbb{Z}.$
  - (vi) If x and y are points in a topological space X then  $\pi_1(X, x)$  is isomorphic to  $\pi_1(X, y)$ .
  - (vii)  $S^1 \times S^1 \times S^1$  is homotopy equivalent to  $S^3$ .
  - (viii) The sphere  $S^{123}$  is contractible.
  - (ix) A contractible space is simply-connected.
  - (x) There exists a topological space X with  $H_{55}(X) = \mathbb{Z}$ .
- 2. (a) (i) Define what a category is.
  - (ii) Define what a groupoid is.
  - (iii) If  $\mathcal{G}$  is a groupoid and  $\operatorname{Mor}_{\mathcal{G}}(X, Y) \neq \emptyset$  show that  $\operatorname{Mor}_{\mathcal{G}}(X, X)$  and  $\operatorname{Mor}_{\mathcal{G}}(Y, Y)$  are isomorphic groups. (You may assume known that in a groupoid  $\operatorname{Mor}_{\mathcal{G}}(X, X)$  is a group.)
  - (b) (i) Define what it means for  $\mathcal{T}$  to be a topology on a set X.
    - (ii) Let X be a set and define  $\mathcal{T}$  to be the set of all subsets  $U \subseteq X$  which satisfy either  $U = \emptyset$  or X U is a finite set of points (remember that 0 is a finite number). Show that  $\mathcal{T}$  is a topology on X.
- 3. (a) Let X be a topological space.
  - (i) If f and g are paths from x to y define what it means for f and g to be path homotopic.
  - (ii) Show that path homotopy is an equivalence relation on paths from x to y.
  - (iii) Let  $e_x$  be the constant path  $e_x(t) = x$ . If f is a path from x to y show that  $e_x \star f$  is path homotopic to f.
  - (b) Prove the Brouwer fixed point theorem that states that any continuous function  $f: D \to D$  has a fixed point when  $D = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid ||x|| \leq 1\}$ . You may assume that  $\pi_1(S^1) \neq 0$ .

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- 4. (a) (i) Define what it means for a continuous function  $p: E \to B$  to be a covering map.
  - (ii) State the path lifting property and the covering homotopy property for a covering map  $p: E \to B$ .
  - (iii) Let  $p: \mathbb{R} \to S^1$  be the map  $p(t) = (\cos(t), \sin(t))$ . Assuming that this is a covering map calculate  $\pi_1(S^1)$ . State carefully any results you use from lectures.
  - (iv) What can you conclude about  $H_1(S^1)$ ?
  - (b) (i) Define what it means for a sequence of abelian groups and homomorphisms

$$0 \to G \xrightarrow{\alpha} H \xrightarrow{\beta} K \to 0$$

to be a short exact sequence of abelian groups.

(ii) Consider a commutative diagram of abelian groups

where both the horizontal rows are short exact sequences. If  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$  are isomorphisms show that  $\gamma$  is an isomorphism. (Don't just quote the Five Lemma.)

- 5. (a) Define carefully the *p*th homology group  $H_p(X)$  of a topological space X. Include a definition of the boundary map.
  - (b) If  $f, g: X \to Y$  are homotopic continuous functions between topological spaces what can we conclude about  $H_p(f), H_p(g): H_p(X) \to H_p(Y)$ ? (Don't prove this result.)
  - (c) Using the result from (b) show that  $H_p(\mathbb{R}^n) = 0$  except when p = 0 when it equals  $\mathbb{Z}$ .
  - (d) Consider a topological space X which is a union of two open sets U and V. Define the Mayer-Vietoris long exact sequence in homology and explain what all the maps are.
  - (e) Using the Mayer-Vietoris sequence calculate the homology of the two-sphere  $S^2$ .