

## Algebraic Topology - Exercise 2

Solve the following questions, you can use the facts that  $\pi_1(S^1) = \mathbb{Z}$  and that  $\pi_1(S^1 \times S^1) = \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ .

1. Show that:
  - a)  $\pi_0 \circ \Omega = \pi_1$ .
  - b)  $\Omega(\Omega(X)) = \text{Mor}(S^2, X)$ . [Hint: use the adjunction from class]
2. (Hatcher Chapter 1.1, Ex. 5) Show that for a space  $X$  TFAE:
  - a) Every map  $S^1 \rightarrow X$  is homotopic to a constant map, with image a point.
  - b) Every map  $S^1 \rightarrow X$  extends to a map  $D^2 \rightarrow X$ .
  - c)  $\pi_1(X, x_0) = 0$  for all  $x_0 \in X$ .
3. (Hatcher Chapter 1.1 Ex 16 revised)
  - a) Let  $i : A \hookrightarrow X$  be the inclusion, prove that if  $A$  is a retract of  $X$  then the induced homomorphism  $i_* : \pi_1(A) \rightarrow \pi_1(X)$  is injective.
  - b) Show that there are no retractions  $r : X \rightarrow A$  in the following cases:
    - i.  $X = \mathbb{R}^3$  with any subspace  $A$  homeomorphic to  $S^1$ .
    - ii.  $X = S^1 \times D^2$  with  $A = S^1 \times S^1$  its boundary torus.
4. Given a topological space  $X$ , define a topological monoid  $\Omega'(X)$  which is homotopically equivalent to  $\Omega(X)$  and a map that sends the product of  $\Omega'(X)$  to the non-associative product on  $\Omega(X)$ .

[Hint: how can we fix the non-associativity of loop concatenation?]
5. Show that the torus is covered by a plane and by the cylinder.

Can hand in with Exercise 3 a week after this exercise sheet is due:
6. Find a cover of a genus  $n + 1$  surface by a genus  $nk + 1$  surface.

Extra:
7. Find a cover of  $S^2 \vee S^1$  which is homotopically equivalent to  $S^2 \vee S^2 \vee S^1$ .