

# Problem 1

If a SES  $0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p^m \rightarrow A \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p^n \rightarrow 0$  exists, then  $A$  must be a finite group of cardinality  $p^{n+m}$  and generated by at most 2 elements. Moreover, we can see that it has an element of order at least  $p^{\max\{n,m\}}$ . By the classification of finite abelian groups,  $A \cong \mathbb{Z}_p^a \times \mathbb{Z}_p^b$ , where  $a \leq b$ ,  $\max\{n,m\} \leq b$  and  $a+b=n+m$ . Now, let  $\max\{n,m\} \leq b \leq n+m$ . Note that this implies that  $n+m-b \leq b$ .

Claim: Under these conditions, a SES

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p^m \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{Z}_p^{n+m-b} \times \mathbb{Z}_p^b \xrightarrow{g} \mathbb{Z}_p^n \rightarrow 0$$

always exists.

Proof: Let  $h: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p^{n+m-b} \times \mathbb{Z}_p^b$  be the homomorphism sending 1 to  $(1, p^{b-m})$ . It is easy to see that  $\ker(h) = (p^m)$  (Using that  $b \geq \max\{n,m\}$ ) and so  $h$  induces an injective homomorphism  $f: \mathbb{Z}_p^m \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p^{n+m-b} \times \mathbb{Z}_p^b$ . Since  $(1, p^{b-m})$  and  $(0, 1)$  generate  $\mathbb{Z}_p^{n+m-b} \times \mathbb{Z}_p^b$ , the image of  $(0, 1)$  in  $\text{coker}(f)$  generates  $\text{coker}(f)$ . Therefore,  $\text{coker}(f) \cong \mathbb{Z}_p^n$ , since both are cyclic groups of the same cardinality. The claim follows because

$$0 \rightarrow M \xrightarrow{f} N \rightarrow \text{coker}(f) \rightarrow 0$$

is always exact if  $f$  is injective.

If a SES  $0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} \mathbb{Z}_n \rightarrow 0$  exists, then  $B$  is an abelian group of rank 1, generated by at most 2 elements, so  $B \cong \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_d$ .

Let  $(a, b) = f(1)$ , then the cokernel of the map  $\phi: \mathbb{Z}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^2$  given by  $\begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ b & d \end{pmatrix}$  is isomorphic to  $\text{coker}(f) = \mathbb{Z}_n$ . It is well-known that  $|\text{coker}(\phi)| = |\det \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ b & d \end{pmatrix}|$ , so  $d|n$ . On the other hand, if  $d|n$ , the map  $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}_d$  sending 1 to  $(\frac{n}{d}, 1)$  is injective, and its cokernel is cyclic of order  $n$  ( $\begin{pmatrix} 1, 0 \\ a \end{pmatrix}$  is a generator).

## Problem 2

This follows from the reduced LES:

$$\dots \rightarrow \underset{\circ}{\widehat{H}}_n(A) \rightarrow \widehat{H}_n(X) \xrightarrow{\uparrow \text{isom.}} \widetilde{H}_n(X, A) \rightarrow \underset{\circ}{\widehat{H}}_{n-1}(A) \rightarrow \dots$$

## Problem 3

By looking at the LES

$$H_1(A) \rightarrow H_1(X) \rightarrow H_1(X, A) \rightarrow H_0(A) \rightarrow H_0(X) \rightarrow H_0(X, A) \rightarrow 0$$

we see that  $H_0(X, A) = 0$  iff  $H_0(A) \rightarrow H_0(X)$  is surjective and that  $H_1(X, A) = 0$  iff  $H_1(A) \rightarrow H_1(X)$  is surjective and  $H_0(A) \rightarrow H_0(X)$  is injective.

So we need to analyze what is the map  $H_0(A) \rightarrow H_0(X)$ . Recall that for any space  $Y$ ,  $H_0(Y)$  is generated by the set of path components of  $Y$ , and so, the map  $H_0(A) \rightarrow H_0(X)$  is just

$$\bigoplus_{\substack{\text{path} \\ \text{components} \\ \text{of } A}} \mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{\substack{\text{path} \\ \text{components} \\ \text{of } X}} \mathbb{Z} : [p] \mapsto [p]$$

and the two claims a), b) follow from this description.

## Problem 4

Consider the LES

$$H_1(\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow \underset{\circ}{H}_1(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow H_1(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow \underset{\circ}{\widetilde{H}}_0(\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow \underset{\circ}{\widetilde{H}}_0(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \underset{\circ}{\widetilde{H}}_0(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Q})$$

Therefore  $H_1(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Q}) \cong \widetilde{H}_0(\mathbb{Q}) = \bigoplus_{p \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}} \mathbb{Z} \langle [p] - [0] \rangle$ , which has a countable basis

# Problem 5

a) Follows from the commutativity of

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} (X, A) & \longrightarrow & (X, V) & \longleftarrow & (X \setminus A, V \setminus A) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ (X/A, A/A) & \longrightarrow & (X/A, V/A) & \longleftarrow & (X/A \setminus A/A, V/A \setminus A/A) \end{array}$$

and the naturality of homology groups.

b)  $\tilde{H}_p(X, A) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_p(X, V)$  is an isomorphism because  $\tilde{H}_i(A, V) = 0$  for all  $i$ , since  $A \subset V$  is a deformation retract, and also using the LES of the triple  $(A, V, X)$ .

$\tilde{H}_p(X \setminus A, V \setminus A) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_p(X, V)$  is an isomorphism due to excision.

$\tilde{H}_p(X/A, A/A) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_p(X/A, V/A)$  is an isomorphism because, again,  $\tilde{H}_i(V/A, A/A) = 0 \forall i$  because  $A \subseteq V$  is a strong deformation retract  
↳ important!!  
and again a LES of a triple.

$\tilde{H}_p(X/A \setminus A/A, V/A \setminus A/A) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_p(X/A, V/A)$  is an iso due to excision.

c) This is because  $g: (X \setminus A, V \setminus A) \rightarrow (X/A \setminus A/A, V/A \setminus A/A)$  is a homeomorphism of pairs.

d) Recall that for a nonempty space  $X$ ,  $\tilde{H}_p(X) \cong \tilde{H}_p(X, \{\text{pt}\})$ . Using the commutativity of the diagram and that everything besides the middle and left vertical arrows are an isomorphism, one checks that  $\tilde{H}_p(X, A) \xrightarrow{g_*} \tilde{H}_p(X/A, A/A) \cong \tilde{H}_p(X/A)$  is an isomorphism.

e) We know that there is a diagram with exact rows:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \dots & \rightarrow & \tilde{H}_n(A) & \xrightarrow{i_*} & \tilde{H}_n(X) & \rightarrow & \tilde{H}_n(X, A) & \xrightarrow{\partial} & \tilde{H}_{n-1}(A) & \xrightarrow{i_*} & \dots \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow j_* & & \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow g_* & & \\ \dots & \rightarrow & \tilde{H}_n(A/A) & \rightarrow & \tilde{H}_n(X/A) & \xrightarrow{\cong} & \tilde{H}_n(X/A, A/A) & \rightarrow & \tilde{H}_{n-1}(A/A) & \rightarrow & \dots \end{array}$$

so we can form the desired LES by letting  $\tilde{H}_m(X/A) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_m(A)$  be  $\partial \circ (g_*^{-1}) \circ \delta$

## Problem 6:

Let  $A = \{[t, x] \in \Sigma X : t \geq 1/4\}$ ,  $B = \{[t, x] \in \Sigma X : t \leq 3/4\}$ .  $A$  and  $B$  are contractible, and  $\{1/2\} \times X \subseteq A \cap B$  is a strong deformation retract. Since  $\text{int}(A) \cup \text{int}(B) = \Sigma X$ , we can apply Mayer-Vietoris:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \tilde{H}_{n+1}(A) \oplus \tilde{H}_{n+1}(B) & \longrightarrow & \tilde{H}_{n+1}(\Sigma X) & \longrightarrow & \tilde{H}_n(A \cap B) & \longrightarrow & \tilde{H}_n(A) \oplus \tilde{H}_n(B) \\ \circ & & & & \uparrow \cong & & \circ & & \circ \\ & & & & \tilde{H}_n(X) & & & & \end{array}$$

Naturality follows because

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \{1/2\} \times X & \longrightarrow & \Sigma X \\ \downarrow f & & \downarrow \Sigma f \\ \{1/2\} \times Y & \longrightarrow & \Sigma Y \end{array}$$

commutes.