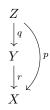
Notation

- I = [0, 1] (closed unit interval)
- $D^n = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid |x| \le 1\}$ (closed unit *n*-disk)
- $S^n = \partial D^{n+1} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \mid |x| = 1\}$ (n-sphere) (we sometimes view S^1 as the unit circle in \mathbb{C})
- $S^{\infty} = \bigcup_{n \ge 1} S^n$ with the weak topology
- Σ_q closed genus-g surface
- $\mathbb{R}P^n$ real projective *n*-space
- $\mathbb{C}\mathrm{P}^n$ complex projective *n*-space

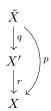
Practice problems

- 1. Let X be a Hausdorff space. Prove that any cover \tilde{X} of X must be Hausdorrff. Remark: The converse is not true!
- 2. Let $p: \tilde{X} \to X$ be a covering map with $p^{-1}(x)$ finite and nonempty for all $x \in X$. Show that \tilde{X} is compact Hausdorff if and only if X is compact Hausdorff.
- 3. Let $p: \tilde{X} \to X$ be a covering space. Prove that X has a basis of open subsets that are evenly covered by p.
- 4. For each of the following maps: prove that the map is a covering map, or prove that it is not a covering map.
 - (a) The defining quotient map $S^n \to \mathbb{R}P^n$.
 - (b) The defining quotient map $S^{2n+1} \to \mathbb{C}P^n$.
- 5. Let X, Y, Z be path-connected, locally path-connected, and semi-locally simply-connected spaces. Let p, q, r be continuous maps with $p = r \circ q$. Show that, if p and q are covering maps, then so is r.



- 6. Let $p: \tilde{X} \to X$ be a covering space, and let $\{U_{\alpha}\}$ be an open cover of X with the property that each open subset U_{α} is evenly covered by p. Let $f: I \to X$ be a continuous path. Prove that there is a subdivision $0 = t_0 < t_1 < \cdots < t_n = 1$ such that for each $i, f|_{[t_i, t_{i+1}]} \subseteq U_i$ for some $U_i \in \{U_{\alpha}\}$.
- 7. (a) Suppose that X is a graph. Show that, if X is simply connected, then X is contractible.
 - (b) Let X be a graph. Conclude that the universal cover of X is contractible.
 - (c) Let X be a graph, and let L be a path-connected, locally path-connected space with a finite fundamental group. Prove that every continuous map from L to X is nullhomotopic.
- 8. Let $p: \tilde{Y} \to Y$ be a covering map, and let $f: X \to Y$ be any map.
 - (a) Define a lift of f to \tilde{Y} , and give sufficient conditions for a lift \tilde{f} to exist.
 - (b) Explain how we constructed the lift \hat{f} .
 - (c) In what sense is the lift unique? Show by example how, when X is not connected, the lift \tilde{f} need not satisfy our uniqueness condition.
- 9. Let $p:(\tilde{X},\tilde{x_0})\to (X,x_0)$ be a covering map. Prove that the induced map $p_*:\pi_1(\tilde{X},\tilde{x_0})\to\pi_1(X,x_0)$ is injective.

- 10. Let $n \geq 2$. Let $p: (\tilde{X}, \tilde{x_0}) \to (X, x_0)$ be a covering map, and let $f: (S^n, s_0) \to (X, x_0)$ be a based map. Prove that f lifts to a unique based map $f: (S^n, s_0) \to (\tilde{X}, \tilde{x_0})$.
- 11. Let X be a path-connected, locally path-connected, semi-locally simply connected space.
 - (a) Show that the universal cover $p: \tilde{X} \to X$ of X is universal in the following sense: Given any covering map $r: X' \to X$, there is covering map $q: \tilde{X} \to X'$ making the following diagram commute.



- (b) Is the covering map $q: \tilde{X} \to X'$ unique?
- 12. (a) Let $p: \tilde{X} \to X$ be a covering map. Explain why, if \tilde{X} is simply connected, then it must be the universal cover (or, more precisely, it must be isomorphic as a cover to the universal cover).
 - (b) Read Tai-Danae Bradley's 'recipe' for constructing the universal cover of a wedge sum, and describe the procedure in your own words.
 - https://www.math3ma.com/blog/a-recipe-for-the-universal-cover-of-x-y
 - (c) Give explicit descriptions (possibly by picture) of the universal covers of the following spaces.
 - (i) $S^1 \times S^1 \times S^1$

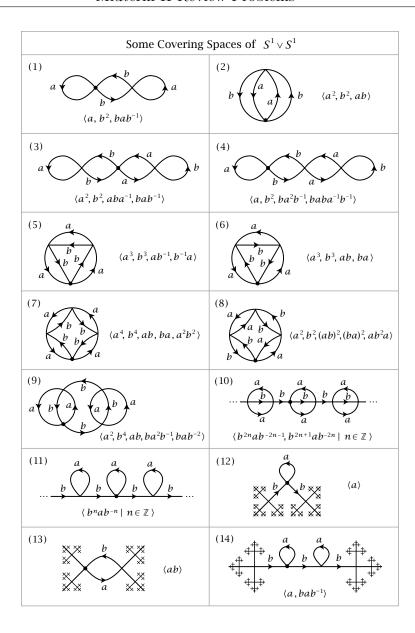
(iv) $\mathbb{R}P^n$, $n \geq 2$

- (ii) $S^1 \vee S^1 \vee S^1$
- (iii) $S^2 \vee S^1$

- (v) $\mathbb{C}\mathrm{P}^n$
- 13. Suppose that X is not semi-locally simply connected. Explain why X cannot have a universal cover.
- 14. (Topology QR Exam, Jan 2021). Let $X = \mathbb{R}P^3$ and let $Y = S^1 \vee S^1$.
 - (a) Are all maps $f: X \to Y$ null-homotopic?
 - (b) Are all maps $f: Y \to X$ null-homotopic?

For each of the above, give a proof if the answer is "yes" and give an example if the answer is "no".

- 15. (Topology QR Exam, Aug 2020). For each of the following cases, determine if there exists a covering space $f: X \to Y$. (If yes, then construct it; if not, then give a proof).
 - (a) X is homotopy equivalent to $S^1 \times S^1$ and Y is homotopy equivalent to $S^1 \vee S^1$.
 - (b) X is homotopy equivalent to $S^1 \vee S^1$ and Y is homotopy equivalent to $S^1 \times S^1$.
- 16. Let X and Y be path-connected, locally path-connected spaces with universal covers $p_X : \tilde{X} \to X$ and $p_Y : \tilde{Y} \to Y$. Show that a continuous map $f : X \to Y$ lifts to a continuous map $f' : \tilde{X} \to \tilde{Y}$ such that $p_Y \circ f' = f \circ p_X$. To what extent is f' unique?
- 17. Consider Hatcher's covers \tilde{X} of $S^1 \vee S^1$ in the table below. Each cover has a distinguished basepoint $\tilde{x_0}$ (marked by a black dot) in the preimage of the single vertex x_0 in $S^1 \vee S^1$. We identify $\pi_1(S^1 \vee S^1, x_0)$ with the free group F_2 on letters a, b. For each cover, answer the following questions.
 - (a) How many sheets is the cover?
 - (b) What is $H = p_*(\pi_1(\tilde{X}, \tilde{x_0}))$ as a subgroup of $\pi_1(S^1 \vee S^1, x_0) = F_2$? Give a free generating set.



18. **True or counterexample.** For each of the following statements: if the statement is true, write "True". If not, state a counterexample. No justification necessary.

Note: If the statement is false, you can receive partial credit for writing "False" without a counterexample.

- (a) If $p: \tilde{X} \to X$ is a covering space map, then p cannot be nullhomotopic.
- (b) If X is simply-connected, then X is semi-locally simply-connected.
- (c) If X is connected, then X is semi-locally simply-connected.
- (d) If X is locally simply-connected and semi-locally simply-connected, then X is simply-connected
- (e) Let $p: \tilde{Y} \to Y$ be a covering map, and let $f: X \to Y$ be a map such that a lift $\tilde{f}: X \to \tilde{Y}$ exists. Then the lift \tilde{f} is the unique map lifting f.
- 19. Describe all (based) isomorphism classes of regular 3-sheeted covers of $S^1 \vee S^1$.
- 20. The Euler number of a finite graph X is the number of vertices of X minus the number of edges of X.

- (a) Suppose X is a finite connected graph with Euler number $\chi(X)$. What is the rank of the free group $\pi_1(X)$?
- (b) If X is a finite graph and $\tilde{X} \to X$ is an n-sheeted cover of X, what is the relationship between the Euler number of X and the Euler number of \tilde{X} ?
- 21. (a) (Centralizer). Let G be a group. Let S be a subgroup of G (or, more generally, a subset). The *centralizer* of S is defined to be

$$C_G(S) = \{g \in G \mid gs = sg \text{ for all } s \in S\}.$$

Prove that $C_G(S)$ is a subgroup of G.

- (b) Explain the difference between the normalizer $N_G(S)$ of S and the centralizer $C_G(S)$ of S.
- (c) Prove that $C_G(S)$ is contained in $N_G(S)$, and that it is a normal subgroup.
- (d) Under what conditions on S will we have containment $S \subseteq C_G(S)$?
- (e) We have another name for the subgroup $C_G(G)$. What is it?
- 22. (a) Consider the transposition (12) in the symmetric group S_4 . What is the normalizer of the subgroup $\langle (12) \rangle$ in S_4 ?
 - (b) What is the normalizer of the subgroup $\langle a \rangle$ in the free group F_2 on a, b?
- 23. **Definition (Abelian cover).** Let X be path-connected, locally path-connected, and semi-locally simply-connected. A cover $p\tilde{X} \to X$ is abelian if it is a regular cover with an abelian deck group.
 - (a) Prove that X has an abelian cover U that is universal in the sense that it is a cover of every other abelian cover of X.
 - (b) Verify that the cover $U \to X$ is unique up to isomorphism of covers.
 - (c) What is U when $X = S^1 \vee S^1$?
- 24. (Topology QR Exam, May 2017). Let X be a connected CW-complex whose fundamental group is Σ_3 , the group of all permutations on 3 elements.
 - (a) How many isomorphism classes of objects are there in the category $Cov_0(X)$ of connected covering spaces of X and continuous maps commuting with the covering map?
 - (b) How many isomorphism classes of objects of $Cov_0(X)$ have degree 2?
 - (c) How many isomorphism classes of objects of $Cov_0(X)$ are regular coverings?
- 25. (Topology QR Exam, Jan 2018). Let X be a graph with one vertex and two edges. Does there exist a connected covering $f: Y \to X$ which is regular and a connected covering $g: Z \to Y$ which is regular such that $fg: Z \to X$ is not a regular covering? Prove your answer.
- 26. Let Σ_g be a genus-g surface, and let $n \leq 2g$. Prove or disprove: Σ_g has a regular covering space with deck group \mathbb{Z}^{2g} .
- 27. Let $p:(\tilde{X},\tilde{x_0})\to (X,x_0)$ be a path-connected covering map, and let $H=p_*(\pi_1(\tilde{X},\tilde{x_0}))$. Prove that, if $[\gamma]\in \pi_1(X,x_0)$, then there is a point $\tilde{x_1}\in p^{-1}(x_0)$ with $p_*(\pi_1(\tilde{X},\tilde{x_1}))=[\gamma]^{-1}H[\gamma]$.
- 28. Find free generating sets for the kernels of the following homomorphisms.

(a)

$$h: F_2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$
$$a \longmapsto 1$$
$$b \longmapsto 0$$

(b)

$$h: F_2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$
$$a \longmapsto 1$$
$$b \longmapsto 1$$

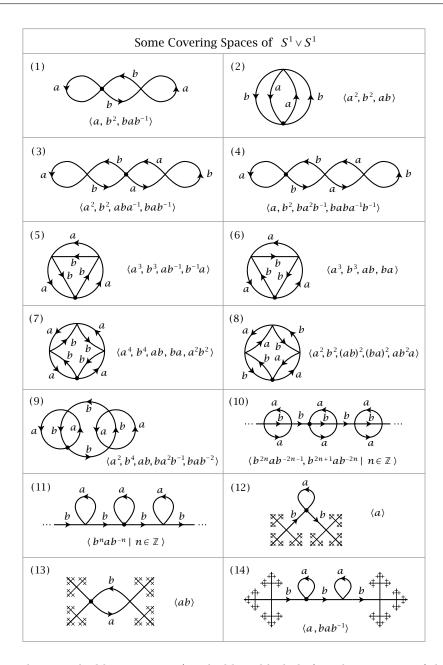
(c)

$$h: F_2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$
$$a \longmapsto 1$$
$$b \longmapsto 2$$

- 29. (Topology QR Exam, May 2020). Describe a set of free generators of the subgroup of the free group on two generators a, b generated by b and all the conjugates of a^2 , b^2 , and $(ab)^3$. Is this a normal subgroup?
- 30. (Topology QR Exam, Jan 2020). Describe a set of free generators of the subgroup of the free group on two generators a, b generated by all conjugates of $aba^{-1}b^{-1}$.
- 31. Build an *n*-sheeted cover of $S^1 \vee S^1$, with vertices labelled $1, 2, \ldots, n$, such that the action of a on the vertices is given by the permutation (in cycle notation):
 - (a) (123)
 - (b) (12)(3)
 - (c) (1)(2)(3)
 - (d) (12)(34)
- 32. Let $p: \tilde{X} \to X$ be a connected, regular covering map, and let $x_0 \in X$. Let $G(\tilde{X})$ be the deck group. Build a bijection of sets between $G(\tilde{X})$ and the fibre $p^{-1}(x_0)$.
- 33. Suppose that $p: \tilde{X} \to X$ is a path-connected cover. Recall that we defined the cover to be regular if, for any $x \in X$, the group of Deck transformations of the cover acts transitively on the fibre $p^{-1}(x)$. Suppose that there is a single point $x_0 \in X$ such that the group of Deck transformations of the cover acts transitively on the fibre $p^{-1}(x_0)$. Prove that the cover is regular.
- 34. Let (X, x_0) be a based space, and let $p: \tilde{X} \to X$ be a cover.
 - (a) Explain why the subgroup $H = p_*(\pi_1(\tilde{X}, \tilde{x_0}))$ is independent of the choice of basepoint $\tilde{x_0} \in p^{-1}(x_0)$ if and only if H is normal.
 - (b) Let $\gamma \in \pi_1(X, x_0)$. Show by example that the deck transformation of \tilde{X} defined by γ may depend on the choice of basepoint $\tilde{x_0}$, even if H is normal.

(Note that the subgroup H, its normalizer N(H), and the action of an element of N(H) all depend on our choice of basepoint $\tilde{x_0}$).

35. Consider Hatcher's covers \tilde{X} of $S^1 \vee S^1$ in the table below.



Each cover has a distinguished basepoint $\tilde{x_0}$ (marked by a black dot) in the preimage of the single vertex x_0 in $S^1 \vee S^1$. We identify $\pi_1(S^1 \vee S^1, x_0)$ with the free group F_2 on letters a, b. For each cover, answer the following questions.

- (a) How many sheets is the cover?
- (b) What is $H = p_*(\pi_1(\tilde{X}, \tilde{x_0}))$ as a subgroup of $\pi_1(S^1 \vee S^1, x_0) = F_2$? Give a free generating set.
- (c) Is the cover \tilde{X} regular?
- (d) Describe the group of deck transformations of \tilde{X} .
- (e) Number the vertices of \tilde{X} , and compute the permutations on the vertices defined by the actions of a, b, and ab in $\pi_1(S^1 \vee S^1, x_0)$.
- (f) In our proof identifying the deck group of \tilde{X} with N(H)/H, we defined an action of $N(H) \subseteq F_2$ by deck transformations. For each of the covers, for the elements $\gamma = a$ and $\gamma = b$ in F_2 , determine whether γ is in N(H), and, if so, describe the associated deck transformation of \tilde{X} .

- 36. Describe the universal cover of $S^1 \vee S^1$. Choose a cover from Hatcher's table, and explain/illustrate how it can be constructed as a quotient of the universal cover by a suitable choice of covering action.
- 37. Let $p: \tilde{X} \to X$ be a connected cover, and let $x_0 \in X$.
 - (a) Let $\tilde{x_1}, \tilde{x_2} \in p^{-1}(x_0)$. Prove that, if a deck transformation mapping $\tilde{x_1}$ to $\tilde{x_2}$ exists, then it is unique.
 - (b) Suppose a deck transformation τ mapping $\tilde{x_1}$ to $\tilde{x_2}$ exists. Explain how to determine where τ maps an arbitrary point $\tilde{x} \in \tilde{X}$. Hint: Recall our construction from our proof of the existence of lifts.
- 38. Given a group G and a normal subgroup N, show that there exists a normal covering space $\tilde{X} \to X$ with $\pi_1(X) \cong G$, $\pi_1(\tilde{X}) \cong N$, and deck transformation group $G(\tilde{X}) \cong G/N$.
- 39. Let $S^{2k-1} \subseteq \mathbb{C}^k \cong \mathbb{R}^{2k}$ be the unit sphere. Define an action of $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ on S^{2k-1} by rotation, generated by the map $v \mapsto e^{2\pi i/m}v$. Compute the fundamental group of its orbit space.
- 40. Let G_1 act on X_1 and G_2 act on X_2 by covering space actions.
 - (a) Define an action of $G_1 \times G_2$ on $X_1 \times X_1$ by

$$(g_1, g_2) \cdot (x_1, x_2) = (g_1 \cdot x_1, g_2 \cdot x_2).$$

Prove this is a covering space action.

- (b) Prove that $(X_1 \times X_2)/(G_1 \times G_2)$ is homeomorphic to $X_1/G_1 \times X_2/G_2$.
- 41. Consider the following actions of a group G on a space X. Determine which actions are covering space actions
 - (a) $X = S^1$, $G = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$, and the generator $1 \in \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ acts by 180° rotation.
 - (b) $X = S^2$, $G = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$, and the generator $1 \in \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ acts by 180° rotation around the vertical axis.
 - (c) $X = \mathbb{R}^n$, $G = \mathbb{R}$, and $r \in \mathbb{R}$ acts by

$$r \cdot (x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n) = (x_1 + r, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n).$$

(d) $X = \mathbb{R}^n$, $G = \mathbb{Z}$, and $z \in \mathbb{Z}$ acts by

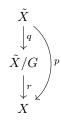
$$z \cdot (x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n) = (x_1 + z, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n).$$

(e) $X = Y^n$ for some space $Y, G = S_n$, and $\sigma \in S_n$ acts by

$$\sigma \cdot (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) = (y_{\sigma(1)}, y_{\sigma(2)}, \dots, y_{\sigma(n)}).$$

- 42. For each of the following actions: prove that they are covering actions, and identify the quotient (they are spaces we know by name!)
 - (a) The group $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ acts on $S^1 \times I$. The generator $1 \in \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ acts by $(x,t) \mapsto (-x,t)$.
 - (b) The group $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ acts on $S^1 \times I$. The generator $1 \in \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ acts by $(x,t) \mapsto (-x,1-t)$.
- 43. Find a covering space action of $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ on the torus so that the quotient is a Klein bottle.
- 44. Let G be a group with a covering space action on a path-connected, locally path-connected space X.
 - (a) What can you say about the relationship between G and $\pi_1(X/G)$? (Note: we did not assume X is simply connected).
 - (b) For a subgroup $H \subseteq G$, show that X/H is a cover of X/G.
 - (c) Show that the cover $X/H \to X/G$ is normal if and only if H is a normal subgroup of G.
 - (d) For subgroups H_1 , H_2 of G, show that the covering space X/H_1 and X/H_2 of X/G are isomorphic if and only if H_1 and H_2 are conjugate subgroups of G.

45. Let $\tilde{X} \to X$ be a (not necessarily regular) cover, and let G be its group of deck transformations. Let $q: \tilde{X} \to \tilde{X}/G$ be the quotient map to the orbit space X/G. Show that there exists a map r making the following diagram commute.



- 46. Let $\{(C_*^i, d_*^i)\}_{i \in I}$ be a family of chain complexes.
 - (a) How should we define the complex $(\bigoplus_i C_*^i, d_*)$?
 - (b) Prove that (for a suitable solution to part (a)),

$$H_n\left(\bigoplus_i C_*^i\right) = \bigoplus_i H_n(C_*^i).$$

- 47. (a) Let $\{A_n\}_{n\in\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}}$ be a family of abelian groups. Construct a chain complex $\{(C_*, d_*)\}$ such that $H_n(C_*) = A_n$.
 - (b) Let $\{A_n\}_{n\in\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}}$ be a family of finitely generated abelian groups. Construct a chain complex $\{(C_*,d_*)\}$ such that C_n is free abelian for all n, and $H_n(C_*)=A_n$.
- 48. Consider the abelian groups A and subgroups B given below. Compute the isomorphism type of the quotient A/B (in the sense of the structure theorem for finitely generated abelian groups).
 - (a) $A = \mathbb{Z}^2$, B is the subgroup generated by (2,3).
 - (b) $A = \mathbb{Z}^2$, B is the subgroup generated by (2, 4).
 - (c) $A = \mathbb{Z}^2$, B is the subgroup generated by (1,1) and (1,-1).
 - (d) $A = \mathbb{Z}^2$, B is the subgroup generated by (2,1) and (7,4).
 - (e) $A = \mathbb{Z}^2$, B is the subgroup generated by (2,1) and (1,3).
- 49. Put the following matrices into Smith normal form. Choose some matrices of your own and compute their Smith normal forms.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -2 \\ 5 & 2 & -1 \\ 6 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -2 & -2 \\ 3 & -1 & -2 \\ -6 & 6 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ -3 & 4 & 1 \\ -2 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- 50. For a matrix A, what is the relationship between the Smith normal form of A and its transpose A^{T} ?
- 51. Suppose A is a square matrix with entries in \mathbb{Z} .
 - (a) Suppose A is invertible over \mathbb{Z} . What are the possibilities for its Smith normal form?
 - (b) Suppose A is invertible over \mathbb{Q} (but not necessarily over \mathbb{Z}). What are the possibilities for its Smith normal form?
- 52. Consider the quotient of \mathbb{Z}^3 by the subgroup generated by $\begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 6 \\ -6 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Compute this group (in the sense of the structure theorem for finitely generated abelian groups). *Hint:* Smith normal form.

53. Compute (without computer assistance) the homology of the following chain complexes.

$$\rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^{2} \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} 4 & -8 \\ -4 & 8 \\ 4 & -8 \end{bmatrix}} \mathbb{Z}^{3} \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} -4 & -2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}} \mathbb{Z}^{2} \rightarrow$$

$$\rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^{3} \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 2 \\ -2 & -1 & -2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}} \mathbb{Z}^{3} \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & -2 \\ -1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}} \mathbb{Z}^{3} \rightarrow$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}^2 \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ -1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}} \mathbb{Z}^3 \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & -2 \\ 0 & 3 & -3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}} \mathbb{Z}^3 \longrightarrow$$

- 54. For each of the following spaces, choose a Δ -complex structure, and compute the simplicial homology.
 - (a) a selection of finite graphs of your choosing
 - (b) a cylinder
 - (c) a Klein bottle
 - (d) the wedge sum of a closed 2-disk and a circle
 - (e) the disjoint union of a cylinder and a circle
- 55. A space X is formed by taking a quotient of a tetrahedron that identifies each of its 6 edges to a single edge, with the orientations shown. Only the 1-dimensional edges are glued; the interiors of the 4 triangular faces are distinct. A space Y is constructed in the same fashion. Compute $H_*(X)$ and $H_*(Y)$.



Note that for Y (unlike X) the edges of the bottom face are cyclically oriented.

- 56. Must the following maps be nullhomotopic? Give a proof or prove a counterexample.
 - (a) $f: S^2 \to S^1 \times S^1$
 - (b) $q: S^1 \times S^1 \to S^2$
- 57. **True or counterexample.** For each of the following statements: if the statement is true, write "True". If not, state a counterexample. No justification necessary.

Note: If the statement is false, you can receive partial credit for writing "False" without a counterexample.

- (a) There is no 3-sheeted cover of $\mathbb{R}P^2 \times \mathbb{R}P^2 \times \mathbb{R}P^2$.
- (b) There is no 4-sheeted cover of $\mathbb{R}P^2 \times \mathbb{R}P^2 \times \mathbb{R}P^2$.
- (c) Every cover of a Mobius band is regular.
- (d) Every cover of $S^1 \vee S^1$ is regular.
- (e) Every covering map $p: \tilde{X} \to X$ is the quotient map to the orbit space of the action of the deck group $G(\tilde{X})$ on \tilde{X} .

- (f) Let $\tilde{X} \to X$ be a connected covering space, and let τ be a deck map $\tilde{X} \to \tilde{X}$. If τ fixes a point, then τ is the identity.
- (g) Let X be a path-connected, locally path-connected, semi-locally simply-connected based space. Let H be a subgroup of $\pi_1(X)$, and let Y be a space with $\pi_1(Y) \cong H$. Then there exists a covering map $Y \to X$.
- (h) Let $H_n(X)$ be the *n*th simplicial homology group of a Δ -complex X. Then the rank of $H_n(X)$ is at most the number of n-simplices in X.
- (i) Let X be a 2-dimensional Δ -complex X. Then $H_1(X)$ is free abelian.
- (j) Let X be a 2-dimensional Δ -complex X. Then $H_2(X)$ is free abelian.