

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

- Explain your work (efficiently); partial credit is available.
- No notes, books, calculators, or other electronic devices are permitted.
- Please sign below to indicate you accept the following statement:  
“I will not give, receive, or use any unauthorized assistance.”

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

| Problem | Total Points | Score |
|---------|--------------|-------|
| 1       | 10           |       |
| 2       | 10           |       |
| 3       | 10           |       |
| 4       | 10           |       |
| 5       | 10           |       |
| Total   | 50           |       |

- 1 Show that there is no retraction from the disk  $D^2 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \|x\| \leq 1\}$  to its boundary circle  $S^1 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \|x\| = 1\}$ .

- 2 Let  $X$  be the union of path-connected open sets  $A_\alpha$  each containing the basepoint  $x_0 \in X$ . Suppose each two-fold intersection  $A_\alpha \cap A_\beta$  is path-connected, and furthermore each three-fold intersection  $A_\alpha \cap A_\beta \cap A_\gamma$  is path-connected. Then van Kampen's Theorem provides a group that  $\pi_1(X)$  is isomorphic to. What is this group?

3 Let  $p: S^1 \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow S^1 \times S^1$  be the covering space map defined by  $p(e^{2\pi i \cdot s}, t) = (e^{2\pi i \cdot 3s}, e^{2\pi i \cdot t})$  for  $e^{2\pi i \cdot s} \in S^1$  and  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

- (a) Is this covering space normal? Identify the group of deck transformations.
- (b) Verify that the group of deck transformations is isomorphic to the quotient  $N(H)/H$ , where  $H = p_*(\pi_1(S^1 \times \mathbb{R}))$ .

4 Let  $(X, x_0)$ ,  $(\tilde{X}_1, \tilde{x}_1)$ , and  $(\tilde{X}_2, \tilde{x}_2)$  be path-connected and locally path-connected spaces with distinguished basepoints. Let  $p_1: (\tilde{X}_1, \tilde{x}_1) \rightarrow (X, x_0)$  and  $p_2: (\tilde{X}_2, \tilde{x}_2) \rightarrow (X, x_0)$  be basepoint-preserving covering space maps.

- (3 points) Define what it means for  $f: (\tilde{X}_1, \tilde{x}_1) \rightarrow (\tilde{X}_2, \tilde{x}_2)$  to be an *isomorphism of covering spaces*.
- (7 points) Prove that the covering spaces  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  are isomorphic if and only if  $p_{1*}(\pi_1(\tilde{X}_1, \tilde{x}_1)) = p_{2*}(\pi_1(\tilde{X}_2, \tilde{x}_2))$ .

5 Just say “True” or “False”. No justification is required; no partial credit is available.

(a) There exists a CW complex structure on  $\mathbb{R}P^n$  with one  $i$ -cell for each  $0 \leq i \leq n$ .

(b) The Möbius band is a mapping cylinder.

(c) Let  $G$  be an arbitrary group. Then  $G$  can be obtained as the fundamental group of some CW complex.

(d) There exists a 4-dimensional CW complex  $X$  with no 2-cells such that  $\pi_1(X) \cong \mathbb{Z} * (\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})$ .

(e) Let  $\tilde{X}$  be a torus. Then there exists a space  $X$  and a covering space map  $p: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$  with  $p_*(\pi_1(\tilde{X})) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ .

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**Practice Exam 1**

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