

# Math 262 HW 3

1. (a)  $H_0(X) = \mathbb{Z}$  since  $X$  connected  $\Rightarrow H^0(X; \mathbb{Z}) = \text{free part of } \mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Z}$  by UCT.  
 $H_1(X) = 0$  since  $X$  simply connected  $\Rightarrow H^1(X; \mathbb{Z}) = 0$  by UCT  
 Poincaré duality  $\Rightarrow H^k(X; \mathbb{Z}) \cong H_{n-k}(X) = \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $H_4(X) \cong H^0(X; \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}$ ,  
 $H^3(X; \mathbb{Z}) \cong H_1(X) = 0$ ,  $H_3(X) \cong H^1(X; \mathbb{Z}) = 0$ .

(b) UCT:  $H^2(X; \mathbb{Z}) \cong (\text{free part of } H_2(X)) \oplus (\text{torsion part of } H_1(X)) = \text{free}$ ;  
 PD  $\Rightarrow H_2(X) \cong H^2(X; \mathbb{Z}) = \text{free}$ .

2. Suppose  $H_{2n+1}(X) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ ; then  $\xrightarrow{\text{UCT}}$  free part of  $H^{2n+1}(X; \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}$ .  
 Then by PD,  $u: \underbrace{(H^{2n+1}(X; \mathbb{Z}))}_{\cong \mathbb{Z}} \oplus \underbrace{(H^{2n+1}(X; \mathbb{Z}))}_{\cong \mathbb{Z}} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  is nonsingular.

But if  $\alpha$  generates the free part of  $H^{2n+1}(X; \mathbb{Z})$ , then

$$\alpha \cup \alpha = (-1)^{(2n+1)^2} (\alpha \cup \alpha) \Rightarrow \alpha \cup \alpha = 0$$

So  $u: \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  is the zero map, contradiction.

3. (a) Let  $\alpha$  generate  $H^1(\mathbb{R}P^n; \mathbb{Z}/2) = \mathbb{Z}/2$  and  $\beta$  generate  $H^1(\mathbb{R}P^m; \mathbb{Z}/2) = \mathbb{Z}/2$ .

~~Let  $\alpha$  generate~~

Then by naturality in UCT for fields,  $f_*: H_1 \rightarrow H_1$  isomorphism implies

$$f^*: H^1(\mathbb{R}P^m; \mathbb{Z}/2) \rightarrow H^1(\mathbb{R}P^n; \mathbb{Z}/2) \text{ is an isomorphism.}$$

(since it's the dual map to  $f_*$ ). Thus  $f^* \beta = \alpha$ .

But  $H^*(\mathbb{R}P^n; \mathbb{Z}/2) = \mathbb{Z}/2[\alpha]/(\alpha^{n+1})$  and  $H^*(\mathbb{R}P^m; \mathbb{Z}/2) = \mathbb{Z}/2[\beta]/(\beta^{m+1})$

So

$$\beta^{m+1} = 0 \Rightarrow 0 = f^*(\beta^{m+1}) = (f^* \beta)^{m+1} = \alpha^{m+1} \Rightarrow m+1 \leq n$$

- (b) Suppose there were such a map; this would induce a map  $\tilde{f}: \mathbb{R}P^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}P^{n-1}$ . Let  $x_0 \in S^n$ , and let  $\gamma$  be any path in  $S^n$  from  $x_0$  to  $-x_0$ ; then  $p \circ \gamma$  generates  $\pi_1(\mathbb{R}P^n, p(x_0)) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2$  (by covering maps), and  $f \circ \gamma$  connects  $f(x_0)$  to  $f(-x_0) = -f(x_0)$  so  $p \circ f \circ \gamma$  generates  $\pi_1(\mathbb{R}P^{n-1}, p(f(x_0))) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2$ . Since  $p \circ f = \tilde{f} \circ p$ , it follows that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S^n & \xrightarrow{f} & S^{n-1} \\ \downarrow p & & \downarrow p \\ \mathbb{R}P^n & \xrightarrow{\tilde{f}} & \mathbb{R}P^{n-1} \end{array}$$

$f_*$  maps the generator of  $H_1(\mathbb{R}P^n)$  to the generator of  $H_1(\mathbb{R}P^{n-1})$ , contradicting (a).