

Introduction to algebraic topology : Week 8

Exercise 1. Let G be a group and $Y \rightarrow X = Y/G$ be a G -covering with Y connected. If T and T' are G -sets, show that any covering morphism $Y_T \rightarrow Y_{T'}$ comes from a map of G -sets from T to T' . (Recall that Y_T is the quotient of $Y \times T$ by the diagonal action of G , same for T' .)

If $T \rightarrow T'$ and $T' \rightarrow T''$ are maps of G -sets inducing maps $Y_T \rightarrow Y_{T'}$ and $Y_{T'} \rightarrow Y_{T''}$ show that the composition $Y_T \rightarrow Y_{T''}$ is induced by the composition $T \rightarrow T''$.

Exercise 2. Let G be a connected and locally path connected topological group with neutral element e and $p : E \rightarrow G$ be a covering map with E connected. Show that E can be made into a topological group such that p is a group homomorphism.

Suppose furthermore that G has a universal covering $u : \tilde{G} \rightarrow G$. Show that $\ker(u)$ and $\pi_1(G, e)$ are isomorphic as groups.

Exercise 3. *Base change.*

Let $f : (Z, z) \rightarrow (X, x)$ be a map of connected, locally path connected spaces that have universal covering spaces.

- 1) Describe a natural functor $F : \text{Cov}(X) \rightarrow \text{Cov}(Z)$ from coverings of X to coverings of Z . (Prove that your construction is well-defined and functorial)
- 2) Describe a natural functor $G : \pi_1(X, x) - \text{sets} \rightarrow \pi_1(Z, z) - \text{sets}$. (Prove that your construction is well-defined and functorial)
- 3) Show that these constructions commute with fiber functors, that is we have a commutative diagram of categories

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{Cov}(X) & \xrightarrow{F} & \text{Cov}(Z) \\
 \text{Fib}_x \downarrow & & \text{Fib}_z \downarrow \\
 \pi_1(X, x) - \text{sets} & \xrightarrow{G} & \pi_1(Z, z) - \text{sets}
 \end{array}$$