

Geometrische Topologie

Übungsblatt 8

Aufgabe 1. Consider the map

$$\begin{aligned} f: \mathbb{C}^* &\longrightarrow \mathbb{C} \\ z &\longmapsto 2(z + 1/z) \end{aligned}$$

- (a) Show that f is a branched covering. Determine the branch points and the branching indices of their preimages.
- (b) Determine the image of the restriction of this map to the annulus $\{z \in \mathbb{C}: 1/2 < |z| < 2\}$.

Aufgabe 2. Show that for $g, h \geq 2$ there is an (unbranched) covering $\Sigma_g \rightarrow \Sigma_h$ if and only if $h - 1$ divides $g - 1$.

Aufgabe 3. (a) Give a topological description of a 3-fold branched covering

$$\text{annulus} \longrightarrow D^2$$

with three branch points in D^2 .

Hint: Describe D^2 as the gluing of three pairs of neighbouring edges of an enneagon, the annulus as the suitable gluing of three copies of this enneagon.

- (b) Verify the Riemann–Hurwitz formula for this example.

Aufgabe 4. Let $p: X \rightarrow Y$ be a covering.

- (a) Let α be a **path** in Y , i.e. a continuous map $\alpha: [0, 1] \rightarrow Y$. Let $y_0 = \alpha(0)$. Choose a point $x_0 \in p^{-1}(y_0)$. Show that there is a unique path $\tilde{\alpha}$ in X with $\tilde{\alpha}(0) = x_0$ and $p \circ \tilde{\alpha} = \alpha$.
- (b) Let Q be a connected topological space and $F: Q \times [0, 1] \rightarrow Y$ a continuous map, which we regard as a homotopy of maps $Q \rightarrow Y$. Assume there is a continuous map $\tilde{F}: Q \times \{0\} \rightarrow X$ with $p \circ \tilde{F} = F|_{Q \times \{0\}}$. Show that there is a continuous map $\tilde{F}: Q \times [0, 1] \rightarrow X$ that coincides on $Q \times \{0\}$ with the given one and satisfies $p \circ \tilde{F} = F$. In other words, one can complete the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Q \times \{0\} & \xrightarrow{\tilde{F}} & X \\
 \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow p \\
 Q \times [0, 1] & \xrightarrow{F} & Y
 \end{array}$$

This is called the **homotopy lifting property**.

- (c) Show that for X path connected and Y simply connected, the covering p must be a homeomorphism.

Remark: A covering $\tilde{Y} \rightarrow Y$ with \tilde{Y} path connected, locally path connected and simply connected is called **universal covering**. Part (c) shows the uniqueness of the universal covering.