

Algorithmic Topology and Groups

Exercises #4

1. Show that the Euler characteristic $\chi = |V| - |E| + |F|$ of an (oriented) map, where V, E, F are its number of vertices, edges and faces, respectively, is even integer no larger than 2. Conclude that the genus of a map is a non-negative integer.
2. Consider the Cayley graph, G_7 , of $\mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z}$ with respect to the three generators $\{1, 2, 3\}$. Let $r = (1, 3, 2, -1, -3, -2)$ be a cyclic permutation of $\mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$. Compute the genus of the map whose underlying graph is G_7 and whose rotation system at each vertex is given by r .
3. The *genus* of a graph is the minimal genus of all the orientable surfaces where the graph can be embedded. What is the genus of the complete graph over n vertices for $n = 4, 5, 6, 7$? Justify your answers. (Hint: you may use the result of [exercise 2](#))
4. Show that the contraction of a pendant edge (an edge with a degree one end-point) can be obtained from a sequence of edge and face subdivisions and their inverses.
5. Describe the maps (A, ρ, ι) for which ρ is an automorphism. Same question with ι in place of ρ .