

# Algebraic Topology Problem Sheet 7

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- Finish the classification of the subgroups of index 3 in  $F_2$  using covering spaces.
  - Which of these covering spaces correspond to normal subgroups.
  - Write down a generating set for each subgroup.
  - There are 7 normal subgroups of index 4 in  $F_2$ . Find 4 of them using covering space theory. (Hint: the covering space will be the Cayley graph of a group of size 4. There are 2 such groups.)
- Show that any map  $f: \mathbb{R}P^2 \rightarrow S^1$  lifts to a map  $\mathbb{R}P^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . (Hint: Given a continuous map  $f$  what is the image of  $f_*$ ?)
- Find a function  $f: S^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}P^2$  which does not lift to  $S^2$  and find one which does.
- Find a covering space giving an infinite index subgroup of  $F_2$  isomorphic to a free group on 3 elements.
- Find a subgroup of  $F_3$  which is isomorphic to a free group on two elements.
- Show that  $S^1$  has exactly one covering space of each degree. (Hint: what are the subgroups of  $\mathbb{Z}$ .)  
Deduce that the only covers of  $S^1$  are homeomorphic to  $S^1$  or  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- (optional) What are the possible covers of  $S^1 \times S^1$ .