

**Problems on finite CW complexes.** (Source: [Hatcher], p. 156)

1. If  $X$  is a finite CW complex, show that  $H_n(X^n)$  is free. (*Hint:* show this group is isomorphic to the kernel of the cellular boundary map:

$$d_n : H_n(X^n, X^{n-1}) \rightarrow H_{n-1}(X^{n-1}, X^{n-2}).$$

2. Show the isomorphism between cellular and singular homology is “natural”, in the following sense: let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a *cellular map* (meaning  $f(X^n) \subset Y^n$  for all  $n$ ;  $X, Y$  finite CW complexes.) Then  $f$  induces a chain map between the cellular chain complexes of  $X$  and  $Y$ , and the map  $f_*^{CW} : H_n^{CW}(X) \rightarrow H_n^{CW}(Y)$  induced by this chain map corresponds to  $f_* : H_n(X) \rightarrow H_n(Y)$  (in singular homology) under the isomorphism  $H_n^{CW} \approx H_n(X)$  (singular).

3. If a finite CW complex  $X$  is the union of subcomplexes  $A$  and  $B$ , show that:

$$\chi(X) = \chi(A) + \chi(B) - \chi(A \cap B).$$

4. For  $X, \tilde{X}$  finite CW complexes and  $p : \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$  an  $n$ -sheeted covering map, show that  $\chi(\tilde{X}) = n\chi(X)$ .