

Comments on the practice problems

1. Every point in U has a neighborhood base of convex open subsets.

2. [corrected] Display the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi_1(U_1 \cap U_2) & \xrightarrow{\text{onto}} & \pi_1(U_2) \\ \text{trivial} \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \pi_1(U_1) & \longrightarrow & \pi_1(X) \end{array}$$

Now $\pi_1(X)$ is generated by the images of $\pi_1(U_1)$ and $\pi_1(U_2)$. If $a \in \pi_1(U_1)$ then its image comes from $\pi_1(U_1 \cap U_2) \rightarrow \pi_1(U_1) \rightarrow X$ which equals $\pi_1(U_1 \cap U_2) \rightarrow \pi_1(U_2) \rightarrow \pi_1(X)$ and the latter is trivial. Hence the image of $\pi_1(U_2)$ generates $\pi_1(X)$, so that the latter \cong quotient of the former.

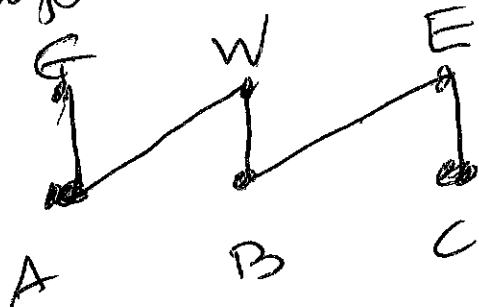
3. There are nine edges:

AG AW AE
 BG BW BE
 CG CW CE

Hence the

Euler characteristic equals $6 - 9 = -3$
 and the fundamental group is free on
 $1 - (-3) = 4$ generators.

A maximal tree has $\# \text{vertices} - 1 = 5$
 edges + contains all vertices. Here is
 the simplest (but not unique) example.



4. The lifting criterion applies to show
 that $j: A \rightarrow B$ lifts to $J: A \rightarrow E$.
 We claim J maps A homeomorphically
 to its image. Since A is compact and E
 is T_2 , need only show J is 1-1. But
 $J(u) = J(v) \Rightarrow pJ(u) = pJ(v) \Rightarrow j(u) = j(v)$
 $\Rightarrow u = v$ since j is 1-1.

The map $\rho|_{J[A]}$ is an inverse to the induced homomorphism $J': A \rightarrow J[A]$.

5. (a) π_1 is free on $1 - \chi = 1 - (V - E) = E - V + 1$ generators, so the latter is nonnegative and hence $E + 1 \geq V$. If X is a tree we have equality since $\chi = 1$. If not, then $1 - \chi > 0$, so there is strict inequality.

(b) Consider all pairs (v, e) where v is a vertex of e . Since e has two vertices there are $2E$ such pairs. Also, there are kV_k such pairs where the vertex lies on k edges. Summing these yields $2E = \sum kV_k$.

6. Let E_1, V_1 and E_2, V_2 be the numbers of ~~vertices~~ edges & vertices for X_1 & X_2 respectively. Then $V_1 - E_1 = 1 = V_2 - E_2$. Now X has $E_1 + E_2$ edges and $V_1 + V_2 - 1$ vertices, so $\chi(X) = V_1 + V_2 - 1 - (E_1 + E_2) = (V_1 - E_1) + (V_2 - E_2) - 1 = 1 + 1 - 1 = 1$. Hence X is a tree.