

Algebraic Topology

Allen Hatcher

Cambridge University Press

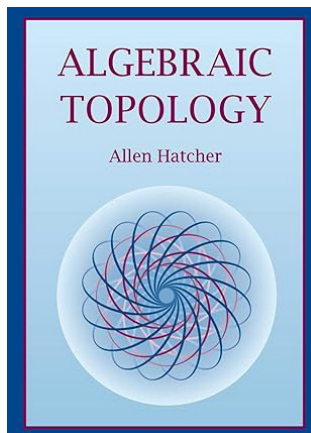
Año 2002, 544 páginas

AMS Communications

The book's combination of geometric intuition, algebraic formalism, and enlightening examples makes the subject readily accessible to a broad readership, ranging from beginning students with only a modest background in abstract algebra and point-set topology to professional mathematicians working in other areas.

Each topic is introduced with an informal discussion of the key ideas, followed by careful definitions, precise statements of theorems with detailed proofs, and illuminating illustrative examples. Both the computations that are carried out in detail and the exercises for the reader are well chosen and enlightening. While many books on algebraic topology systematically develop the formalism of homological algebra before applying it to topology, Hatcher's treatment is firmly grounded in geometric intuition, introducing the more technical homological formalism only as needed.

My Algebraic Topology book had a long period of development since I had the ambitious goal of making it both readable and cover a lot of material. For readability I kept in mind the principle of not keeping secrets from the reader, so I wanted to include explanations that



are sometimes left out. The inclusion of large numbers of examples and exercises was also intended to aid readability.

I wanted the book to be easily accessible to readers everywhere, and by lucky coincidence the internet was emerging as the book was being written in the 1990s so preliminary versions could be made freely downloadable online, and this has continued after publication of the print version. This has led to valuable and much-appreciated feedback from many readers. I also wanted the book to look as nice as I could make it.

Allen Hatcher spent his early years in Indianapolis before obtaining bachelor's degrees in music and mathematics at Oberlin College. Opting to continue in mathematics, he received a PhD at Stanford advised by Hans Samelson, then held positions at Princeton and UCLA, finally settling at Cornell for the next three decades. He retired nine years ago to have more time for writing.



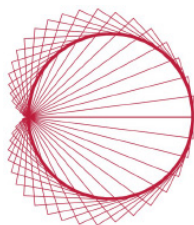
Perro ciego

*La psiquis es un perro ciego.
Yo la trato con cautela para
que muerda despacio.
Creo conocerme -pienso mejor
cuando corro, funciono mal
en días feriados- pero ahora
me sorprende cierta inclinación
hacia lo paranormal:
he empezado a recordar sueños
que tendré en el futuro.
Duran una fracción
de segundo, están vivos
como bacterias, son cosas
no inventadas que un día
van a inventarse:
existen, sólo que después.
Estas situaciones me marean,
me hacen sospechar de mí.
Prefiero cuando estoy
más plana, cuando no hay
tanto de mí en otra dimensión.*

Leila Guerriero

La versión completa de la reseña se puede consultar en la página:

https://www.ams.org/news?news_id=7399



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