

On Betti Numbers of Riemannian Spaces.

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1. Recently H. Iwamoto [1] has proved the following

Theorem. *Let B_p be the p -th Betti number of an orientable compact positive definite Riemannian space and let B'_p be the maximum number of linearly independent skew-symmetric tensors of the degree p whose covariant derivatives vanish. Then we have a relation*

$$B_p \geq B'_p.$$

We shall remark first that the proof of this theorem by H. Iwamoto, depending on the theorem of de Rham [2] may be simplified if we use the following theorem of Hodge [3].

The p -th Betti number of an orientable compact positive definite Riemannian space is equal to the maximum number of linearly independent harmonic tensors of the degree p . A tensor $\xi_{a_1 \dots a_p}$ is said to be harmonic if (1) it is skew-symmetric, and (2) it satisfies the conditions

$$(A) \quad \xi_{a_1 \dots a_p ; r} = \sum_{q=1}^p \xi_{a_1 \dots a_{q-1} r a_{q+1} \dots a_p ; a_q}$$

and

$$(B) \quad \xi_{a_1 \dots a_p ; r} g^{a_p r} = 0,$$

where the semi-colon denotes the covariant derivative with regard to the Christoffel symbols.

By this Hodge's theorem, we can prove the above theorem as follows. Let $\xi_{a_1 \dots a_p}$ be a skew-symmetric tensor whose covariant derivative vanishes. Then $\xi_{a_1 \dots a_p}$ satisfies evidently the conditions (A) and (B).

Hence it becomes a harmonic tensor. If there exist two linearly independent skew-symmetric tensors $\xi_{a_1 \dots a_p}$ and $\eta_{a_1 \dots a_p}$ whose covariant derivatives vanish, then their linear combinations are skew-symmetric and their covariant derivatives vanish also. Hence they are also harmonic. Thus we have

$$B_d \geq B'_p. \quad Q. E. D.$$

Let us now examine the case in which the equality $B_p = B'_p$ occurs. We shall prove that the equality holds under some restriction in the case of the symmetric space of E. Cartan.

Theorem 1. *Let R_n be an orientable compact positive definite Riemannian space. If R_n has the properties:*

$$(1) \quad R_{ijkl; h} = 0; \quad (\text{symmetric space!})$$

(2) *the quadratic form*

$$\{P(P-1)R_{ijkl}g_{st} + g_{kl}(2pR_{ijts} - pR_{ij}g_{st} - R_{st}g_{ij})\} \xi^{is} \xi^{kt}$$

with respect to ξ is negative definite, where we assume

$$\xi^{ijk} = -\xi^{jik}$$

then the covariant derivative of any harmonic tensor of the degree p vanishes, that is to say

$$B_p = B'_p.$$

Especially in the case $p=1$, the condition (2) becomes

(2') *the quadratic form*

$$(2R_{ijts} - R_{ij}g_{st} - R_{st}g_{ij}) \xi^{is} \xi^{jt}$$

is negative definite, where we assume

$$\xi^{ij} = \xi^{ji} \quad \text{and} \quad \xi^{ij} \approx \rho g^{ij}.$$

Proof. Let $\xi_{a_1 \dots a_p}$ be any harmonic tensor, put

$$\varphi = \xi_{a_1 \dots a_p; r} \xi^{a_1 \dots a_p; r} \quad (1.1)$$

where

$$\xi^{a_1 \dots a_p; r} = g^{a_1 b_1} \dots g^{a_p b_p} g^{rs} \xi_{b_1 \dots b_p; s} \quad (1.2)$$

and consider a scalar defined by

$$\Delta = g^{ab} \varphi_{; a; b}. \quad (1.3)$$

By Green's theorem [4], we have

$$\int_{R^n} \Delta dv = 0, \quad (1.4)$$

where $\int dv$ denotes the volume integral over the whole space. On the other hand, we have

$$\Delta = 2g^{bc} \xi_{a_1 \dots a_p; r; b; c} \xi^{a_1 \dots a_p; r} + 2\xi_{a_1 \dots a_p; r; b} \xi^{a_1 \dots a_p; r; b} \quad (1.5)$$

To calculate the first term in the second member, putting

$$\Phi = g^{bc} \xi_{a_2 \dots a_p; r; b; c} \xi^{a_1 \dots a_p; r}$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi &= (\xi_{a_1 \dots a_p; b; r} - \sum_{s=1}^p R^m \cdot a_s r \xi_{a_1 \dots m \dots a_p}^{(s)}); c g^{bc} \xi^{a_1 \dots a_p; r} \quad (1.6) \\ &= (\xi_{a_1 \dots a_p; b; r; c} - \sum_{s=1}^p R^m \cdot a_s r b; c \xi_{a_1 \dots m \dots a_p}^{(s)} - \sum_{s=1}^p R^m \cdot a_s r b \xi_{a_1 \dots m \dots a_p; c}^{(s)}) g^{bc} \xi^{a_1 \dots a_p; r} \end{aligned}$$

from which, by virtue of the relation

$$R_{ijkl; \lambda} = 0,$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi &= (\xi_{a_1 \dots a_p; b; r; c} - \sum_{s=1}^p R^m \cdot a_s r b \xi_{a_1 \dots m \dots a_p; c}^{(s)}) g^{bc} \xi^{a_1 \dots a_p; r} \\ &= (\xi_{a_1 \dots a_p; b; c; r} - \sum_{s=1}^p R^m \cdot a_s r c \xi_{a_1 \dots m \dots a_p; b}^{(s)} - R^m \cdot b r c \xi_{a_1 \dots a_p; m} \\ &\quad - \sum_{s=1}^p R^m \cdot a_s r b \xi_{a_1 \dots m \dots a_p; c}^{(s)}) g^{bc} \xi^{a_1 \dots a_p; r}. \quad (1.7) \end{aligned}$$

From the conditions for the harmonic tensor, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi &= (\sum_{s=1}^p \xi_{a_1 \dots b \dots a_p; a_s; c; r}^{(s)} - \sum_{s=1}^p R^m \cdot a_s r c \xi_{a_1 \dots m \dots a_p; b}^{(s)} \\ &\quad - R^m \cdot b r c \xi_{a_1 \dots a_p; m} - \sum_{s=1}^p R^m \cdot a_s r b \xi_{a_1 \dots m \dots a_p; c}^{(s)}) g^{bc} \xi^{a_1 \dots a_p; r} \quad (1.8) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \left\{ \sum_{s=1}^p \xi_{a_1 \dots b \dots a_p; c; a_s; r} - \left(\sum_{s=1}^p R^m \cdot a_t a_s c \xi_{a_1 \dots m \dots b \dots a_p} + R^m \cdot b a_s c \xi_{a_1 \dots m \dots a_p} \right); r \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \sum_{s=1}^p R^m \cdot a_s r c \xi_{a_1 \dots m \dots a_p; b} - R^m \cdot b r c \xi_{a_1 \dots a_p; m} - \sum_{s=1}^p R^m \cdot a_s r b \xi_{a_1 \dots m \dots a_p; c} \right\} \\
&\quad \times g^{bc} \xi^{a_1 \dots a_p; r} \\
\Phi &= - \left\{ -p(p-1) R^m \cdot a_p a_{p-1} c \xi_{a_1 \dots a_{p-2} b m; r} + p R^m \cdot b a_p c \xi_{a_1 \dots a_{p-1} m; r} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + 2p R^m \cdot a_p r b \xi_{a_1 \dots a_{p-1} m; c} + R^m \cdot b r c \xi_{a_1 \dots a_p; m} \right\} g^{bc} \xi^{a_1 \dots a_p; r} \\
&= - \left\{ p(p-1) R_{mjib} g_{kl} - p R_{mj} g_{bi} g_{kl} + 2p R_{mjlk} g_{bi} - R_{kl} g_{bi} g_{mj} \right\} \\
&\quad \times \xi_{a_1 \dots a_{p-2}}^{bm; k} \xi^{a_1 \dots a_{p-2} ij; l} \tag{1.9}
\end{aligned}$$

There exists always a coordinate system in which the metric tensor δ_{ij} takes the values δ_{ij} at a specified point. Then the quantity

$$\xi_{a_1 \dots a_{p-2}}^{bm; k} \xi^{a_1 \dots a_{p-2} ij; l}$$

takes the form

$$\sum_{a_1' \dots a_{p-2}'} \xi_{a_1' \dots a_{p-2}'}^{l' m'; k'} \xi_{a_1' \dots a_{p-2}'}^{i' j'; l'}$$

Hence, if the quadratic form of ξ

$$\{ p(p-1) R_{mjib} g_{kl} + g_{bi} (2p R_{mjlk} - p R_{mj} g_{kl} - R_{kl} g_{mj}) \} \xi^{bmk} \xi^{ijl} \tag{1.10}$$

with the relation

$$\xi^{ijl} = -\xi^{jil}$$

is negative definite, then Φ becomes positive unless

$$\xi_{a_1 \dots a_p; r} = 0.$$

On the other hand, from (1.5) we have

$$\Delta = 2\Phi + 2\xi_{a_1 \dots a_p; r; b} \xi^{a_1 \dots a_p; r; b} \tag{11.1}$$

Therefore, if $\xi_{a_1 \dots a_p; r}$ is not identically zero, then the scalar Δ is not negative and is positive at some point of the space. Hence we must have

$$\int_{R_n} \Delta \, dv > 0$$

But this inequality contradicts to (1.4), Hence it follows that

$$\xi_{a_1 \dots a_p; r} = 0. \quad Q. E. D.$$

2. From Hodge's theorem, we get easily the following

Theorem 2. *Let R_n be an orientable compact positive definite Riemannian space. If R_n admits m linearly independent parallel vectors, then it follows that*

$$B^1 \geq m,$$

$$B_{m'} \geq 1, \quad (m' \leq m)$$

$$B_{2k} \geq 1, \quad \left(k=1, 2, \dots, \frac{n}{2}-1\right), \quad (n \text{ even}).$$

Proof. By the assumption, there exist m linearly independent parallel vectors

$$v_{(1)}^i, v_{(2)}^i, \dots, v_{(m)}^i$$

Putting

$$v_{(m')}^i = g_{ij} v_{(m')}^j \quad (m' = 1, 2, \dots, m)$$

we have

$$v_{(m'); j} = 0$$

Therefore, these covariant vectors are harmonic. Hence, it follows from Hodge's theorem that

$$B_1 \geq m.$$

Next, we consider an m' -vector such as

$$\begin{vmatrix} v_i & v_i & \cdots & v_i \\ (1) & (2) & & (m') \end{vmatrix} \quad (2 \leq m' \leq m).$$

It is not identically zero and its covariant derivative vanishes. Therefore they are harmonic tensors of the degree m' . Hence it follows that

$$B_{m'} \geq 1. \quad (m' \leq m)$$

Next, we construct a skew-symmetric tensor such that

$$[H_{i_1 i_2} H_{i_3 i_4} \cdots H_{i_{2k-1} i_{2k}}] \quad (1 \leq k \leq \frac{n}{2} - 1),$$

where

$$H_{ij} = \begin{vmatrix} v_i & v_j \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} - \begin{vmatrix} v_j & v_i \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix}.$$

Evidently its covariant derivative vanishes.

Hence it is a harmonic tensor of the degree $2k$, unless it is identically zero. Then, if the dimension of the space is even, it follows that

$$B_{2k} \geq 1 \quad (k=1, 2, \dots, \frac{n}{2} - 1). \quad \text{Q. E. D.}$$

3. Let R_n be an orientable compact positive definite Riemannian space. If our R_n admits a tensor V^i_{jk} whose covariant derivative vanishes, i. e.

$$V^i_{jk;l} = 0, \quad (3.1)$$

then we can construct the following skew-symmetric tensors

$$\begin{aligned} & V^i_{ik}, \quad \delta \begin{pmatrix} k_1 & k_2 & k_3 \\ j_1 & j_2 & j_3 \end{pmatrix} V^i_{i_2 k_1} V^i_{i_3 k_1} V^i_{i_1 k_3}, \dots, \\ & \delta \begin{pmatrix} k_1 \cdots k_m \\ j_1 \cdots j_m \end{pmatrix} V^i_{i_2 k_1} V^i_{i_3 k_2} \cdots V^i_{i_1 k_m} \quad (m < n), \end{aligned}$$

where the symbol

$$\delta \begin{pmatrix} k_1 \cdots k_m \\ i_1 \cdots i_m \end{pmatrix}$$

is equal to 1 or -1 according as $k_1 \cdots k_m$ constitutes an even or odd permutation of $i_1 \cdots i_m$ and is otherwise zero. From (3.1) it follows that these

tensors are harmonic. Hence, if the tensor of the degree p of (3.2) is not identically zero, then the p -th Betti number of R_n is not zero. Generally, if there exists a tensor $X^{i \cdot j k_1 \dots k_p}$ such that

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad & X^{i \cdot j k_1 \dots k_p} \text{ is not symmetric with respect to any} \\ & \text{pair of the indices } k_1 \dots k_p, \\ \text{(b)} \quad & X^{i \cdot j k_1 \dots k_p; r} = 0, \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (3.3)$$

then we can construct the following tensors,

$$\begin{aligned} X^{i \cdot i k_1 \dots k_p} \dots \delta \binom{k_1 \dots k_{mp}}{j_1 \dots j_{mp}} X^{i_1 \cdot i_2 k_1 \dots k_p} X^{i_2 \cdot i_3 k_{p+1} \dots k_{2p}} \dots \\ \times X^{i_m \cdot i_1 k_{mp-p+1} \dots k_{mp}} \cdot (mp < n) \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

These tensors are skew-symmetric and their covariant derivatives vanish. Therefore they are harmonic.

Hence we see that* if the tensor of the degree mp of (3.4) is not identically zero, then the mp -th Betti number of R_n is not zero.

Example. If our R_n is symmetric, i. e.

$$R^i_{\cdot jkl; n} = 0, \quad (3.5)$$

then we can construct the following harmonic tensors,

$$\begin{aligned} \delta \binom{k_1 \dots k_4}{j_1 \dots j_4} R^{i_1 \cdot i_2 k_1 k_2} R^{i_2 \cdot i_3 k_3 k_4} \dots, \\ \delta \binom{k_1 \dots k_{2m}}{j_1 \dots j_{2m}} R^{i_1 \cdot i_2 k_1 k_2} R^{i_2 \cdot i_3 k_3 k_4} \dots R^{i_m \cdot i_1 k_{2m-1} k_{2m}} \quad (2m < n). \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

Hence we have the

Theorem 3. *The m -th Betti number $\left(2 \leq m < \frac{n}{2}\right)$ of an orientable compact positive definite symmetric Riemannian space is not zero.*

4. Moreover, if there exists a tensor $W_{k_1 \dots k_p}$ with the properties :

* When $m=2$ and p is odd, the tensor of (3.4) becomes identically zero.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{(a) } W_{k_1 \dots k_p; r} = 0 \\ \text{(b) } p \text{ is even,} \\ \text{(c) } W_{k_1 \dots k_p} \text{ is not symmetric with respect to any pair} \\ \quad \text{of the indices,} \end{array} \right\} \quad (4.1)$$

then we can construct the following harmonic tensors

$$\delta \binom{k_1 \dots k_{mp}}{j_1 \dots j_{mp}} W_{k_1 \dots k_p} \dots W_{k_{mp-p+1} \dots k_{mp}} \quad (mp < n). \quad (4.2)$$

Therefore, if the tensor of degree mp of (4.2) is not identically zero, then the mp -th Betti number is not zero. Further, if there exist many tensors satisfying (4.1) or (3.3) and being linearly independent to each other, then their products of the form

$$\delta \binom{k_1 \dots k_{p+q}}{j_1 \dots j_{p+q}} R_{i_1 \dots i_p k_1 \dots k_p} S_{i_1 \dots i_p k_{p+1} \dots k_{p+q}} \quad (4.4)$$

or

$$\delta \binom{k_1 \dots k_{m+l}}{j_1 \dots j_{m+l}} P_{k_1 \dots k_l} Q_{k_{l+1} \dots k_{m+l}}$$

become also harmonic.

5. Previously, T. Y. Thomas [4] treated a tensor equation of the form

$$T_{a_1 \dots a_p; r; s} g^{rs} = c T_{a_1 \dots a_p}, \quad (5.1)$$

which, for the sake of brevity, we write as

$$\Delta T = cT, \quad (5.2)$$

where c is a constant. We shall now generalize above equation as follows:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{(a) } T_{a_1 \dots a_p; r; s} g^{rs} = K_{a_1 \dots a_p}^{b_1 \dots b_p} T_{b_1 \dots b_p}, \\ \text{(b) } T_{a_1 \dots a_p; r; s} g^{rs} = K_{a_1 \dots a_p}^{b_1 \dots b_p} T_{b_1 \dots b_p} + L_{a_1 \dots a_p}, \end{array} \right\} \quad (5.3)$$

where K and L are given tensors. For the sake of brevity, we write (6.3) as follows :

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad \Delta T &= K \cdot T, \\ \text{(b)} \quad \Delta T &= K \cdot T + L, \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (5.4)$$

If (5.4) (a) has a solution T , then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(T \cdot T) &= (T_{a_1 \dots a_p} T^{a_1 \dots a_p})_{;r};_s g^{rs} = 2 (T_{a_1 \dots a_p};_r;_s T^{a_1 \dots a_p} g^{rs}) \\ &+ 2 T_{a_1 \dots a_p};_r T^{a_1 \dots a_p};^r = 2(\Delta T \cdot T) + 2(\delta T \cdot \delta T), \end{aligned}$$

where we have put

$$T^{a_1 \dots a_p} = g^{a_1 b_1} \dots g^{a_p b_p} T_{b_1 \dots b_p}$$

$$T^{a_1 \dots a_p};^r = g^{rs} T^{a_1 \dots a_p};_s$$

$$\delta T = T_{a_1 \dots a_p};^r$$

By Green's theorem [5], we have

$$0 = \int_{R_n} \Delta(T \cdot T) dv = 2 \int_{R_n} (\Delta T \cdot T) dv + 2 \int_{R_n} (\delta T \cdot \delta T) dv, \quad (5.6)$$

where dv denotes the volume element. From (5.4) (a) and (5.6), we have

$$0 = 2 \int_{R_n} (K \cdot T \cdot T) dv + 2 \int_{R_n} (\delta T \cdot \delta T) dv. \quad (5.7)$$

As R_n is positive definite, the second term in the second member of (5.7) is not negative. Therefore, if the quadratic form $K \cdot T \cdot T$ is positive definite, then the first term in the second member of (5.7) becomes positive unless $T \equiv 0$. Hence, if $K \cdot T \cdot T$ is positive definite, the solution T must vanish identically.

Next, if $K \cdot T \cdot T$ is everywhere positive semi-definite, then the second member of (5.7) must vanish. In this case we have

$$\delta T = 0, \quad (5.8)$$

that is to say

$$T_{a_1 \dots a_p};^r = 0,$$

Moreover, from (5.4) (a) and (5.8), we have

$$K \cdot T = 0. \quad (5.9)$$

Next, if (5.4) (b) has two solutions T and U , then their difference $T-U$ must satisfy (5.4) (a). Then, if (5.4) (a) has no solution other than zero, the equation (5.4) (b) has not two solutions. Hence we have the

Theorem 4. *If the quadratic form $K \cdot T \cdot T$ is positive definite at every point of R_n , then the equation*

$$(A) \quad \Delta T = K \cdot T$$

has no solution other than zero. In this case the equation

$$(B) \quad \Delta T = K \cdot T + L$$

cannot have two solutions. If $K \cdot T \cdot T$ is everywhere positive semi-definite, the solution of the equation (A) must satisfy the following relations

$$\delta T = 0 \text{ and } K \cdot T = 0.$$

6. Above theorem has many interesting applications.

One of them is the problem of the infinitesimal collineation. An infinitesimal point transformation which carries any geodesic into a geodesic is called infinitesimal affine collineation, provided that the change of the parameter is linear. Let

$$\bar{x}^i = x^i + \varepsilon \xi^i(x)$$

be an infinitesimal affine collineation. Then the covariant components of the vector ξ^i must satisfy

$$\xi_{i;j;k} + R_{ijk\alpha} \xi^\alpha = 0. \quad (\text{K. Yano and Y. Tomonaga [6]}) \quad (6.1)$$

Let ξ_i be a solution of (6.1). Then we have

$$\Delta \xi_i = \xi_{i;j;k} g^{jk} = -R_{ijk\alpha} g^{jk} \xi^\alpha = -R_{ij} \xi^j.$$

We see that if $R_{ij} \xi^i \xi^j$ is negative definite at every point of R_n , then the solution of (6.1) must vanish identically and if $R_{ij} \xi^i \xi^j$ is everywhere negative semi-definite, then it follows that

$$\xi_{i;j}=0,$$

that is to say ξ^i is absolutely parallel. Hence we have the

Theorem 5. *If the quadratic form $R_{ij}\xi^i\xi^j$ is everywhere negative definite, then R_n admits no infinitesimal affine collineation of the class C'' . If $R_{ij}\xi^i\xi^j$ is everywhere negative semi-definite, then the vector of the transformation, if it exists, is absolutely parallel. Especially in the case of the infinitesimal motion we have the*

Theorem. (S. Bochner. [7])

If $R_{ij}\xi^i\xi^j$ is everywhere negative definite, then R_n admits no infinitesimal motion.

7. Harmonic tensors.

A skew-symmetric tensor $\xi_{a_1\dots a_p}$ is a harmonic tensor, if it satisfies the conditions

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad & \xi_{a_1\dots a_p}; r = \sum_{m=1}^p \xi_{a_1\dots r\dots a_p}^{(m)}; a_m, \\ \text{(b)} \quad & \xi_{a_1\dots a_p}; s g^{as} = 0. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (7.1)$$

Then $\xi_{a_1\dots a_p}$ satisfies the equation of the form

$$\Delta \xi = K \cdot \xi, \quad (6.2)$$

where K is a complicated tensor. In this case we have

$$K \cdot \xi \cdot \xi = (p g_{a_1 b_2} R_{a_1 b_1} - p(p-1) R_{a_1 b_2 b_1 a_2}) \xi^{a_1 a_2 a_3 \dots a_p} \xi^{b_1 b_2 \dots a_2 \dots a_p} \quad (7.3)$$

Therefore, if $K \cdot \xi \cdot \xi$ is everywhere positive definite, then it follows from Hodge's theorem [3] that the p -th Betti number of R_n is zero. This fact was discovered by S. Bochner [7]. Moreover, if $K \cdot \xi \cdot \xi$ is everywhere positive semi-definite, then there exist following two cases:

1. The p -th Betti number B_p is zero.
2. $B_p \neq 0$. In this case there exists at least one harmonic tensor, say ξ . Then we have

$$\delta \xi = 0 \text{ and } K \cdot \xi = 0.$$

Hence, there exists at least one skew-symmetric tensor whose covariant derivative vanishes.

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