

$$[(5), (9)] \quad r \rightarrow s. = .i \quad (6)$$

$$[(4), (6)] \quad p \rightarrow q. = .r \rightarrow s \quad (7)$$

$$[11.03] \quad (7) = (1)(2) \quad (8)$$

$$[(7), (8)] \quad (1)(2) \quad (9)$$

$$[11.2] \quad (1)(2) \rightarrow (1) \quad (10)$$

$$[12.17] \quad (1)(2) \rightarrow (2) \quad (11)$$

$$[(9), (10)] \quad (1)$$

$$[(9), (11)] \quad (2) .$$

The paradox stated above is a particular case of Theorem 10, and therefore requires no further proof.

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THE BETTI NUMBERS OF CYCLIC PRODUCTS

BY R. J. WALKER

1. *Introduction.* In a recent paper† M. Richardson has discussed the symmetric product of a simplicial complex and has obtained explicit formulas for the Betti numbers of the two- and three-fold products. Acting on a suggestion of Lefschetz, we define a more general type of topological product and apply Richardson's methods to compute the Betti numbers of a certain one of these, the "cyclic" product.

2. *Basis for m -Cycles of General Products.* Let S be a topological space and G a group of permutations on the numbers $1, \dots, n$. The *product of S with respect to G* , $G(S)$, is the set of all n -tuples (P_1, \dots, P_n) of points of S , where $(P_{i_1}, \dots, P_{i_n})$ is to be regarded as identical with (P_1, \dots, P_n) if and only if the permutation $(\begin{smallmatrix} 1 & \dots & n \\ i_1 & \dots & i_n \end{smallmatrix})$ is an element of G . A neighborhood of (P_1, \dots, P_n) is the set of all points (Q_1, \dots, Q_n) for which Q_i belongs to a fixed neighborhood of P_i . It is not difficult to verify that the

† M. Richardson, *On the homology characters of symmetric products*, Duke Mathematical Journal, vol. 1 (1935), pp. 50-69. We shall refer to this paper as R.

Hausdorff axioms hold for this definition of neighborhood, and hence that $G(S)$ is a topological space. In particular, if G is the identity or the symmetric group, $G(S)$ is, respectively, the direct or the symmetric product of S . If G is the cyclic group on n elements we shall call $G(S)$ the n -fold *cyclic* product of S .

The space $G(S)$ can be obtained in another manner. Let S^n denote the n -fold direct product of S . Then each element (i_1, \dots, i_n) of G gives rise to an automorphism of S^n which carries (P_1, \dots, P_n) into $(P_{i_1}, \dots, P_{i_n})$. By identifying points which are images of each other under the group of automorphisms we evidently obtain a space homeomorphic to $G(S)$.

Now let K be a simplicial complex, K^n its direct product, and $k = G(K)$ its product with respect to the group G of degree n and order r . We then have r automorphisms T_λ of K^n , and a continuous, single-valued transformation Λ of K^n into k , such that†

$$(1) \quad \Lambda T_\lambda = \Lambda.$$

Richardson has shown‡ that K^n and k can be subdivided into simplexes in such a fashion that the transformations T_λ and Λ are simplicial. We can therefore operate with them on chains of K^n . If E and e are simplexes of K^n and k , respectively, such that $e = \Lambda E$, we define the operator Λ' by $\Lambda' e = \sum_\lambda T_\lambda E$. We have then

$$(2) \quad \Lambda \Lambda' e = re,$$

$$(3) \quad \Lambda' \Lambda E = \sum_\lambda T_\lambda E.$$

We also find that T_λ , Λ , and Λ' preserve boundaries and hence homologies.

The principal theorem of Richardson,§ concerning the Betti numbers of k , is stated in terms of matrices. For actual computation we find it easier to work with the cycles themselves, and so we shall state and prove the theorem in a slightly different form.

† In the expression for the product of two transformations, the transformation represented by the right-hand symbol is to be applied first.

‡ R, pp. 51 and 53.

§ R, p. 52.

THEOREM 1. *Let $\{\Gamma^i\}$ be an independent basis, with respect to homology, for m -cycles, with rational coefficients, of K^n , such that $T_\lambda \Gamma^i = \pm \Gamma^{i\lambda}$, ($\lambda = 1, \dots, r$); and let $\{\bar{\Gamma}^\alpha\}$ be a maximal subset of $\{\Gamma^i\}$ such that*

$$(a) \quad T_\lambda \bar{\Gamma}^\alpha \neq \pm \bar{\Gamma}^\beta, \quad (\alpha \neq \beta),$$

$$(b) \quad T_\lambda \bar{\Gamma}^\alpha \neq -\bar{\Gamma}^\alpha,$$

for any λ . Then $\{\gamma^\alpha\} = \{\Lambda \bar{\Gamma}^\alpha\}$ is an independent basis with respect to homology for the m -cycles of k .

PROOF. (i) The γ^α are independent. For suppose that we have $\sum_\alpha x_\alpha \gamma^\alpha \sim 0$, that is, $\sum_\alpha x_\alpha \Lambda \bar{\Gamma}^\alpha \sim 0$. Then

$$\Lambda' \sum_\alpha x_\alpha \Lambda \bar{\Gamma}^\alpha = \sum_\alpha x_\alpha \Lambda' \Lambda \bar{\Gamma}^\alpha = \sum_{\alpha, \lambda} x_\alpha T_\lambda \bar{\Gamma}^\alpha \sim 0,$$

by (3). Now if $T_\lambda \bar{\Gamma}^\alpha = \epsilon \Gamma^i$, $\epsilon = \pm 1$, we cannot have $T_\mu \bar{\Gamma}^\alpha = -\epsilon \Gamma^i$, for this would imply

$$T_\mu^{-1} T_\lambda \bar{\Gamma}^\alpha = \epsilon T_\mu^{-1} \Gamma^i = -\epsilon^2 \bar{\Gamma}^\alpha = -\bar{\Gamma}^\alpha,$$

contrary to condition (b). Similarly, from (a), we cannot have $T_\mu \bar{\Gamma}^\beta = \pm \Gamma^i$, $\beta \neq \alpha$. Hence with each such Γ^i there is associated an ϵ_i , a $\bar{\Gamma}^\alpha$, and s_i values of λ for which $T_\lambda \bar{\Gamma}^\alpha = \epsilon_i \Gamma^i$. If the last homology is now written in terms of the basis $\{\Gamma^i\}$, the coefficient of Γ^i will be $\epsilon_i s_i x_\alpha$. Since the Γ^i are independent, $\epsilon_i s_i x_\alpha = 0$, and therefore every $x_\alpha = 0$.

Use was made of the properties of the rational coefficients only in the last step of each part of the proof. Now the s_i introduced in (i) are factors of r , for the T_λ for which $T_\lambda \bar{\Gamma}^\alpha = \epsilon_i \Gamma^i$ evidently form a coset of the subgroup which leaves $\bar{\Gamma}^\alpha$ invariant. It follows that the theorem will hold for any coefficient group in which each element has a unique r th part; in particular for the group of residues modulo a number prime to r .

(ii) $\{\gamma^\alpha\}$ is a basis. We note first that since the set $\{\bar{\Gamma}^\alpha\}$ is maximal every Γ^i is of one of the two forms $T_\lambda \bar{\Gamma}^\alpha$ or $\tilde{\Gamma}^j$, where for each j there is a λ_j such that $T_{\lambda_j} \tilde{\Gamma}^j = -\tilde{\Gamma}^j$. Also, $\Lambda \tilde{\Gamma}^j = \Lambda T_{\lambda_j} \tilde{\Gamma}^j = -\Lambda \tilde{\Gamma}^j$, so that $\Lambda \tilde{\Gamma}^j = 0$. Now if γ is any m -cycle of k , $\Lambda' \gamma$ is an m -cycle of K^n , and so

$$\Lambda' \gamma \sim \sum_i x_i \Gamma^i = \sum_{\alpha, \lambda} x_{\alpha \lambda} T_\lambda \bar{\Gamma}^\alpha + \sum_j x_j \tilde{\Gamma}^j.$$

Hence

$$\Lambda\Lambda'\gamma = r\gamma \sim \sum_{\alpha,\lambda} x_{\alpha\lambda}\Lambda T_\lambda\Gamma^\alpha + \sum_j x_j\Lambda\tilde{\Gamma}^j = \sum_{\alpha,\lambda} x_{\alpha\lambda}\gamma^\alpha,$$

by (2) and (1). That is,

$$\gamma \sim \sum_{\alpha,\lambda} \frac{x_{\alpha\lambda}}{r} \gamma^\alpha,$$

3. *Betti Numbers of Cyclic Products.* Keeping the notation as before, we let G be the cyclic group on n elements. To compute the m th Betti number of the cyclic product k we must count the number of m -cycles Γ^α . A basis of the type $\{\Gamma^i\}$ used in the theorem is obtained by taking all cycles of the form

$$C_{m_1} \times \cdots \times C_{m_n}, \quad m_1 + \cdots + m_n = m,$$

C_{m_i} being a member of a basis of m_i -cycles of K .† Following Richardson's procedure, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} T_\lambda(C_{m_1} \times \cdots \times C_{m_\lambda} \times C_{m_{\lambda+1}} \times \cdots \times C_{m_n}) \\ = (-1)^{\epsilon_\lambda} C_{m_{\lambda+1}} \times \cdots \times C_{m_n} \times C_{m_1} \times \cdots \times C_{m_\lambda}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_1 = m_1m_2 + \cdots + m_1m_n = m_1(m - m_1) &= mm_1 - m_1^2 \\ &\equiv mm_1 - m_1 \pmod{2} \\ &= (m - 1)m_1, \end{aligned}$$

and by induction

$$\epsilon_\lambda \equiv (m - 1)(m_1 + \cdots + m_\lambda) \pmod{2}.$$

Let q be a factor of n , $n = qs$, and consider all Γ^i which are invariant, to within change of sign, under G_q , the cyclic subgroup of G of order q . They necessarily have the form

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_q = (C_{m_1} \times \cdots \times C_{m_s}) \times (C_{m_1} \times \cdots \times C_{m_s}) \times \cdots \\ \times (C_{m_1} \times \cdots \times C_{m_s}), \end{aligned}$$

there being q identical sets of factors. We must have $q(m_1 +$

† S. Lefschetz, *Topology*, p. 228.

$\dots + m_s) = m$; that is, to have a Γ_q , q must be a factor of m and hence of (m, n) , the highest common factor of m and n . If t is a proper multiple of q and a factor of (m, n) , it is easily seen that a Γ_t is also a Γ_q . We denote by Γ_q^* any Γ_q which is not such a Γ_t , and by $A_{m,q}$ the number of Γ_q^* . The total number of Γ_q is then $\sum_t A_{m,t}$, the summation being over all values of t which are multiples of q and factors of (m, n) . But the number of Γ_q is evidently equal to the number of possible combinations of the form $C_{m_1} \times \dots \times C_{m_s}$, $m_1 + \dots + m_s = m/q$, and this is exactly $R_{m/q}(K^s)$. Hence

$$\sum_t A_{m,t} = R_{m/q}(K^{n/tq}),$$

and from these equations we can obtain the $A_{m,q}$ step by step starting with $q = (m, n)$, or directly by the use of the Dedekind inversion formula.

Now

$$T_s \Gamma_q = (-1)^{(m-1)(m_1+\dots+m_s)} \Gamma_q = (-1)^{(m-1)m/q} \Gamma_q,$$

and so if m is even and m/q is odd, Γ_q is a cycle of the type $\bar{\Gamma}^i$ of Theorem 1 and is not counted among the $\bar{\Gamma}^\alpha$. We therefore put

$$B_{m,q} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } m \text{ is even and } m/q \text{ is odd,} \\ A_{m,q} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Consider the s cycles $\Gamma_q^*, T_1 \Gamma_q^*, \dots, T_{s-1} \Gamma_q^*$. If any two of these are equal, say $T_i \Gamma_q^* = T_j \Gamma_q^*$, ($i > j$), then Γ_q^* is invariant, to within change of sign, under the subgroup generated by $T_j^{-1} T_i = T_{i-j}$, and hence under the minimal subgroup containing G_q and T_{i-j} . Since $i-j < s$, T_{i-j} is not an element of G_q and therefore this subgroup is a G_t with t a proper multiple of q , contrary to the definition of Γ_q^* . It follows that there are exactly $s = n/q$ distinct transforms of each of the $B_{m,q}$ cycles Γ_q^* , and so we can pick out $(q/n) B_{m,q}$ of the Γ_q^* which are not transformable into one another and which can therefore be included among the $\bar{\Gamma}^\alpha$ of Theorem 1. Since the cycles Γ_q^* for different values of q are not transformable into one another and since every Γ^i is a Γ_q^* for some q , we have the following result.

THEOREM 2.

$$R_m(k) = (1/n) \sum_a qB_{m,a},$$

the summation being over all factors of (m, n) .

The following special cases may be of interest.

COROLLARY 1. *If n is an odd prime*

$$R_m(k) = \begin{cases} (1/n)R_m(K^n), & \text{if } (m, n) = 1, \\ (1/n)[R_m(K^n) - R_s(K)] + R_s(K), & \text{if } m = ns. \end{cases}$$

COROLLARY 2. *If p is an odd prime and $n = p^\alpha$, $m = p^\beta m_1$, $(m_1, p) = 1$, and $\gamma = \min \alpha, \beta$,*

$$R_m(k) = \frac{p-1}{n} \left[\frac{1}{p-1} R_m(K^n) + \sum_{i=1}^{\gamma} p^{i-1} R_{m/p^i}(K^{n/p^i}) \right].$$

COROLLARY 3. *If $R_0(K) = 1$, then $R_1(k) = R_1(K)$.*

4. *Remark.* The methods used on the cyclic product can evidently be used to compute the Betti numbers of a product with respect to an arbitrary group. In general, however, the resulting formulas are too complicated to be of interest.

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