

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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† 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  $T_\lambda$  of  $K^n$ , and a continuous, single-valued transformation  $\Lambda$  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  $T_\lambda$  and  $\Lambda$  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  $\Lambda'$  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  $T_\lambda$ ,  $\Lambda$ , and  $\Lambda'$  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  $\lambda$ . Then  $\{\gamma^\alpha\} = \{\Lambda \bar{\Gamma}^\alpha\}$  is an independent basis with respect to homology for the  $m$ -cycles of  $k$ .

**PROOF.** (i) The  $\gamma^\alpha$  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  $\Gamma^i$  there is associated an  $\epsilon_i$ , a  $\bar{\Gamma}^\alpha$ , and  $s_i$  values of  $\lambda$  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  $\Gamma^i$  will be  $\epsilon_i s_i x_\alpha$ . Since the  $\Gamma^i$  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  $T_\lambda$  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  $\Gamma^i$  is of one of the two forms  $T_\lambda \bar{\Gamma}^\alpha$  or  $\tilde{\Gamma}^j$ , where for each  $j$  there is a  $\lambda_j$  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  $\gamma$  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  $\Gamma^\alpha$ . 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

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

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  $\Gamma^i$  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  $\Gamma_q$ ,  $q$  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  $\Gamma_t$  is also a  $\Gamma_q$ . We denote by  $\Gamma_q^*$  any  $\Gamma_q$  which is not such a  $\Gamma_t$ , and by  $A_{m,q}$  the number of  $\Gamma_q^*$ . The total number of  $\Gamma_q$  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  $\Gamma_q$  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,  $\Gamma_q$  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  $\Gamma_q^*$  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  $\Gamma_q^*$ . It follows that there are exactly  $s = n/q$  distinct transforms of each of the  $B_{m,q}$  cycles  $\Gamma_q^*$ , and so we can pick out  $(q/n) B_{m,q}$  of the  $\Gamma_q^*$  which are not transformable into one another and which can therefore be included among the  $\bar{\Gamma}^\alpha$  of Theorem 1. Since the cycles  $\Gamma_q^*$  for different values of  $q$  are not transformable into one another and since every  $\Gamma^i$  is a  $\Gamma_q^*$  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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