

Examples of cohomology rings

Let X be a ^{nice} space (usually a smooth irreducible projective variety).

The Poincaré polynomial of X is

$$\sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}} \dim(H^j(X, \mathbb{Z})) q^j.$$

Examples

(pt) The point pt or the disc D^n or affine space \mathbb{A}^n

The Poincaré polynomial is 1, i.e.

$$H^*(\text{pt}, \mathbb{Z}) = H^*(D^n, \mathbb{Z}) = H^*(\mathbb{A}^n, \mathbb{Z}) = \text{span}\{1\}$$

with $\deg(1) = 0$ and $1^2 = 1$.

(S^n) The sphere S^n (Harder equation (4.38))

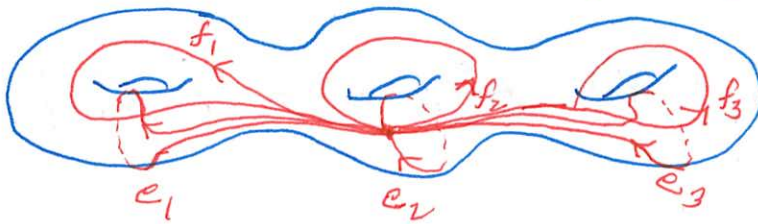
The Poincaré polynomial is $1 + q^n$, i.e.

$$H^*(S^n, \mathbb{Z}) = \frac{\mathbb{Z}[w]}{\langle w^2 = 0 \rangle} = \mathbb{Z}\text{-span}\{1, w\},$$

with $\deg(1) = 0$, $\deg(w) = n$ and $w^2 = 0$.

(Eg) Riemann surface Σ_g of genus g

Harder Exercise 22
p 77



The Poincaré polynomial is $1 + 2g q + q^2$,

$$H^*(\Sigma_g, \mathbb{Z}) = \text{span}\{1\} \oplus \text{span}\{f_1, \dots, f_g, e_1, \dots, e_g\} \oplus \text{span}\{\omega\}$$

with $\deg(1) = 0$, $\deg(e_i) = \deg(f_i) = 1$, $\deg(\omega) = 2$

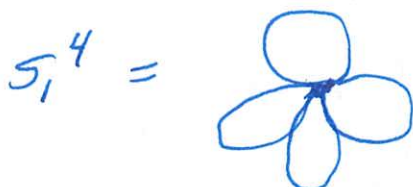
and products given by the multiplication table

	f_1	\dots	f_g	e_1	\dots	e_g
f_1	0					
f_g			0			
e_1				ω		
e_g					0	

and $\omega^2 = 0$.

(Cg/A) Complex tori and abelian varieties

$$\mathbb{C}^g/\Lambda \cong \mathbb{R}^{2g}/\mathbb{Z}^{2g} \cong (\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z})^{2g} \cong (\mathbb{S}^1)^{2g}$$



(Harder Equation (4.93)
on p 116
see also § 4.8.10

The Poincaré polynomial is $(1+q)^{2g}$,

$$(1+q)^{2g} = 1 + 2q + \binom{2g}{2} q^2 + \dots + \binom{2g}{2g-2} q^{2g-2} + 2q q^{2g-1} + q^{2g}.$$

$$H^*(\mathbb{C}^g/\Lambda, \mathbb{Z}) = H^*(\mathbb{P}^1)^{2g}, \mathbb{Z}) = \Lambda(f_1, \dots, f_g, e_1, \dots, e_g)$$

with $\deg(e_i) \neq \deg(f_i) = 1$.

$(\Lambda(f_1, \dots, f_g, e_1, \dots, e_g))$ is the exterior algebra generated by $e_1, \dots, e_g, f_1, \dots, f_g$.

(\mathbb{P}^{n-1}) Projective space \mathbb{P}^{n-1}

(Harder Exercise 26
page 107 and
equation (4.118) on p147)

The Poincaré polynomial is

$$[n] = 1 + q^2 + q^4 + \dots + q^{2(n-1)} = \frac{1 - q^{2n}}{1 - q^2}$$

$$H^*(\mathbb{P}^{n-1}, \mathbb{Z}) = \frac{\mathbb{Z}[\omega]}{\langle \omega^n = 0 \rangle} = \mathbb{Z}\text{-span}\{1, \omega, \omega^2, \dots, \omega^{n-1}\}$$

with $\omega^n = 0$ and $\deg(\omega) = 2$.

Note that

$$\mathbb{P}^1 \subseteq S^2 \subseteq \Sigma_0$$

and the elliptic curves have $E_2 \subseteq \mathbb{C}/\Lambda \subseteq (\mathbb{P}^1)^2$.

$Gr_k(\mathbb{C}^n)$ Grassmannians $Gr_k(\mathbb{C}^n) = \{0 \subseteq V \subseteq \mathbb{C}^n \mid \dim_{\mathbb{C}} V = k\}$

The Poincaré polynomial is

$$[n]_k = \frac{(1-t^n)(1-t^{n-1}) \cdots (1-t^{n-k+1})}{(1-t)(1-t^2) \cdots (1-t^k)} \quad \text{with } t = q^2.$$

(FL) Flag varieties

$$FL = \{0 \subseteq V_1 \subseteq \cdots \subseteq V_{n-1} \subseteq \mathbb{C}^n \mid V_j \text{ a } \mathbb{C}\text{-submodule of } \mathbb{C}^n, \dim(V_j) = j\}$$

The Poincaré polynomial is

$$[n]! = \frac{(1-t^n)(1-t^{n-1}) \cdots (1-t)}{(1-t)(1-t) \cdots (1-t)} \quad \text{with } t = q^2.$$

(FL $_{\mu}$) Partial flag varieties $\mu = (\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_r)$

$$FL_{\mu} = \{0 \subseteq V_{\mu_1} \subseteq V_{\mu_1 + \mu_2} \subseteq \cdots \subseteq V_{\mu_1 + \cdots + \mu_r} = \mathbb{C}^n \mid V_j \text{ is a } \mathbb{C}\text{-submodule of } \mathbb{C}^n, \dim(V_j) = j\}$$

The Poincaré polynomial is

$$[n]_{\mu} = \frac{[n]!}{[\mu_1]! [\mu_2]! \cdots [\mu_r]!} \quad \text{with } t = q^2.$$

Sketch of proof Recall that

$$\mathbb{P}^{n-1} = FL_{1, n-1}, \quad FL = FL_{1, 1, \dots, 1} \quad \text{and} \quad Gr_k(\mathbb{C}^n) = FL_{k, n-k}.$$

The Bruhat decomposition

$$F_{\mu}^{\eta} = G/P_{\mu} = \bigsqcup_{w \in S_n/S_{\mu}} BwP_{\mu},$$

where $S_{\mu} = S_{\mu_1} \times S_{\mu_2} \times \dots \times S_{\mu_r}$ and the union is over coset representatives of the cosets of S_{μ} in S_n . If w is minimal length in the coset wS_{μ} and $w = s_{i_1} \dots s_{i_{\ell(w)}}$ is a reduced word then

$$BwP_{\mu} = \{y_{i_1}(c_1) \dots y_{i_{\ell(w)}}(c_{\ell(w)})P_{\mu} \mid c_1, \dots, c_{\ell(w)} \in \mathbb{C}\} = \mathbb{C}^{\ell(w)}$$

then the Poincaré polynomial for F_{μ}^{η} is

$$\sum_{w \in S_n/S_{\mu}} q^{2\ell(w)} \quad (\text{coming from } F_{\mu}^{\eta} = \bigsqcup_{w \in S_n/S_{\mu}} BwP_{\mu})$$

It remains to verify that

$$\sum_{w \in S_n/S_{\mu}} q^{2\ell(w)} = \begin{bmatrix} n \\ \mu \end{bmatrix} = \frac{[n]!}{[\mu_1]! \dots [\mu_r]!}$$

which is done by first showing $\sum_{w \in S_n} q^{2\ell(w)} = [n]!$

Descriptions of the rings $H^*(F\mu, \mathbb{Z})$ and $K(F\mu)$

Let S_n act on x_1, \dots, x_n by permutations
 and extend this to an action on $\mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$,

$$wx_i = x_{w(i)}, \quad w(a_1 f_1 + a_2 f_2) = a_1 (wf_1) + a_2 (wf_2)$$

$$\text{and } w(f_1 f_2) = (wf_1)(wf_2),$$

for $a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $f_1, f_2 \in \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$

For a subgroup $K \subseteq S_n$ let

$$\mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]^K = \{ f \in \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n] \mid \text{if } w \in K \text{ then } wf = f \}$$

Then

$$H^*(F\mu, \mathbb{Z}) = \frac{\mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]^{S_n}}{\langle f(x_1, \dots, x_n) - f(0, \dots, 0) \mid f \in \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]^{S_n} \rangle}$$

Similarly,

$$K(F\mu) = \frac{\mathbb{Z}[x_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, x_n^{\pm 1}]^{S_n}}{\langle f(x_1, \dots, x_n) - f(1, \dots, 1) \mid f \in \mathbb{Z}[x_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, x_n^{\pm 1}]^{S_n} \rangle}$$

The Chern character is given by

$$K(F\mu) \xrightarrow{\text{ch}} H^*(F\mu)$$

$$x_i \longmapsto 1 + x_i + \frac{x_i^2}{2!} + \dots$$