

Reading Paper

Notes for some books and papers

Contents

I New Topics	3
1 Notes for some new topics	7
1.1 Perverse Sheaf and Intersection Cohomology	7
1.1.1 Poincaré Duality	7
1.1.2 Understanding Why the Odd Betti Numbers of a Complex Projective Manifold are Even?	8
1.1.3 Lefschetz Hyperplane Section Theorem	10
1.1.4 Hard Lefschetz Theorem	10
Bibliography	13

An aerial photograph of a tropical coastline. The top half of the image is dominated by a dense forest of green trees. Below the forest, a strip of light-colored sand runs along the coast. Interspersed along the beach are several large, dark, irregular rocks. The water immediately adjacent to the beach is a bright turquoise color, appearing shallow and clear. As the water extends further from the shore, it becomes darker and more textured, with visible white foam and small waves breaking near the bottom right corner.

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New Topics

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Notes for some new topics

1.1. Perverse Sheaf and Intersection Cohomology

1.1.1. Poincaré Duality

Definition 1.1.1 (cap product). *On an n -manifold X , the cap product is*

$$C^i(X) \times C_n(X) \xrightarrow{\cap} C_{n-i}(X),$$

where C_i and C^i denote the (simplicial/singular) i -(co)chains on X with \mathbb{Z} coefficients.

The cap product is defined as follows: if $a \in C^{n-i}(X)$, $b \in C^i(X)$, and $\sigma \in C_n(X)$ then

$$a(b \frown \sigma) = (a \smile b)(\sigma).$$

The cap product is compatible with the boundary maps, thus it descends to a map

$$H^i(X; \mathbb{Z}) \times H_n(X; \mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow{\cap} H_{n-i}(X; \mathbb{Z}).$$

The following statement lies at the heart of algebraic and geometric topology. For a modern proof see, e.g., [1, Section 3.3]:

Theorem 1.1.1 (Poincaré Duality). *Let X be a closed, connected, oriented topological n -manifold with fundamental class $[X]$. Then capping with $[X]$ gives an isomorphism*

$$H^i(X; \mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow{\cong} H_{n-i}(X; \mathbb{Z})$$

for all integers i .

As a consequence of Theorem 1.1.1 one gets a non-degenerate pairing

$$H_i(X; \mathbb{C}) \otimes H_{n-i}(X; \mathbb{C}) \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}.$$

In particular, the Betti numbers¹ of X in complementary degrees coincide, i.e.,

$$\dim_{\mathbb{C}} H_i(X; \mathbb{C}) = \dim_{\mathbb{C}} H_{n-i}(X; \mathbb{C}).$$

Note that the existence of Hodge structures on the cohomology of complex projective manifolds leads to an important consequence that the odd Betti numbers of a complex projective manifold are even.

1.1 Perverse Sheaf and Intersection Cohomology	7
1.1.1 Poincaré Duality	7
1.1.2 Understanding Why the Odd Betti Numbers of a Complex Projective Manifold are Even?	8
1.1.3 Lefschetz Hyperplane Section Theorem	10
1.1.4 Hard Lefschetz Theorem	10

¹ It is known as the rank of the corresponding homology groups.

1.1.2. Understanding Why the Odd Betti Numbers of a Complex Projective Manifold are Even?

For a complex projective manifold, the odd Betti numbers are always even. This can be understood through a combination of complex geometry and topological properties. Let's break this down in detail:

- 1. Definition of Betti Numbers:** Betti numbers, denoted as b_k , quantify the topology of a manifold by representing the rank of the k -th homology group $H_k(M, \mathbb{Z})$ (or the k -th cohomology group $H^k(X; \mathbb{Z})$). They indicate the number of k -dimensional "holes" or independent cycles in the manifold. For instance, b_0 represents the number of connected components, b_1 represents the number of independent loops, and so on.
- 2. Complex Projective Manifolds:** A complex projective manifold is a complex manifold that can be embedded into complex projective space. These manifolds have a rich structure and are inherently Kähler manifolds, meaning they have a compatible triple structure of a complex structure, a symplectic structure, and a Riemannian metric.
- 3. Hodge Decomposition:** For a Kähler manifold M , the complex de Rham cohomology group $H^k(M, \mathbb{C})$ can be decomposed into a direct sum of Hodge components:

$$H^k(M, \mathbb{C}) = \bigoplus_{p+q=k} H^{p,q}(M)$$

Here, $H^{p,q}(M)$ denotes the space of harmonic forms of type (p, q) , and $h^{p,q} = \dim H^{p,q}(M)$ are the Hodge numbers.

- 4. Relation Between Betti Numbers and Hodge Numbers:** The k -th Betti number b_k is related to the Hodge numbers $h^{p,q}$ by the following formula:

$$b_k = \sum_{p+q=k} h^{p,q}$$

- 5. Symmetry of Hodge Numbers:** For Kähler manifolds, there is a fundamental symmetry in the Hodge numbers:

$$h^{p,q} = h^{q,p}$$

This symmetry implies that the Hodge components $H^{p,q}$ and $H^{q,p}$ appear in pairs.

- 6. Implication for Odd Betti Numbers:** Due to the symmetry $h^{p,q} = h^{q,p}$, the sum of Hodge numbers for odd k (such as b_1, b_3 , etc.) will always be an even number because each non-zero $h^{p,q}$ has a matching $h^{q,p}$. Thus, the odd Betti numbers must be even.

7. Example: Consider the complex projective space \mathbb{CP}^n . The Hodge numbers are as follows:

- $h^{0,0} = 1$
- $h^{1,1} = 1$
- $h^{2,2} = 1$ (if $n \geq 2$)
- All other $h^{p,q} = 0$.

The Betti numbers calculated are:

- $b_0 = h^{0,0} = 1$
- $b_2 = h^{1,1} = 1$
- $b_4 = h^{2,2} = 1$ (for $n \geq 2$)
- The odd Betti numbers $b_1 = b_3 = 0$.

This example shows that odd Betti numbers are zero (which is even) for \mathbb{CP}^n .

8. Conclusion: In summary, the reason the odd Betti numbers of a complex projective manifold are even is due to the Hodge decomposition and the inherent symmetry of Hodge numbers on Kähler manifolds.

Remark. In the diagram, δ is labeled as a **meridian**, and η is labeled as a **longitude**. The reason why the homology class of δ vanishes can be explained from the perspective of algebraic topology.

1. Meridian as a Boundary: From the diagram, the meridian δ appears to be the boundary of a region. In homology theory, any curve that forms the boundary of a region has a **trivial homology class** (i.e., it vanishes). This is because a boundary does not represent a closed, independent cycle—it is merely the edge of a higher-dimensional region. In other words, since δ bounds some region within X , it is a boundary, and hence its homology class must vanish.

2. Boundaries and Homology in Algebraic Topology: In homology theory, the boundary of a higher-dimensional object always has a zero homology class. For example, in the case of a surface, if a loop (like the meridian δ) is the boundary of a region, its homology class is trivial because it does not represent a free, closed cycle but rather a boundary.

3. Betti Number and Hodge Decomposition: The passage also mentions that δ 's homology class vanishes, and this is related to the fact that the first Betti number b_1 of X is odd. According to Hodge theory, if the first Betti number is odd, a complete Hodge decomposition cannot exist. This implies that certain homology classes in $H^1(X; \mathbb{C})$ cannot be fully decomposed into pure $(1,0)$ and $(0,1)$ components. This is connected to the fact that δ 's homology class vanishes in the homology of X .

Summary:

1. The meridian δ is the boundary of some region, and by the

fundamental property of homology, **any boundary has a trivial homology class**.

2. This follows from basic algebraic topology, where boundaries do not contribute to non-trivial homology classes.
3. Additionally, the fact that X has an odd first Betti number implies that a full Hodge decomposition is not possible for $H^1(X; \mathbb{C})$, which further supports why the homology class of δ is trivial.

1.1.3. Lefschetz Hyperplane Section Theorem

A map $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is called **homotopy equivalence** if there is a map $g : Y \rightarrow X$ such that $fg \cong \text{Id}$ and $gf \cong \text{Id}$. It is an equivalent relation and X and Y are homotopy equivalent if they are the deformation retracts of the third space Z containing them. In general, we can take Z as the mapping Cylinder M_f of any homotopy equivalence $f : X \rightarrow Y$. As we know that M_f deformation retracts to Y , it suffices to prove that M_f also deformation retracts to its other end X .

1.1.4. Hard Lefschetz Theorem

Let X be a nonsingular complex projective variety of complex dimension n , and let H be a generic hyperplane. The intersection $X \cap H$ yields a homology class $[X \cap H] \in H_{2n-2}(X; \mathbb{Z})$, and its Poincaré dual is a degree-two cohomology class, denoted by $[H] \in H^2(X; \mathbb{Z})$. The Lefschetz operator is the map

$$L : H^i(X; \mathbb{C}) \xrightarrow{\cup [H]} H^{i+2}(X; \mathbb{C})$$

defined by taking the cup product with $[H]$. Then the following important result holds:

Theorem 1.1.2 (Hard Lefschetz Theorem). *The map*

$$L^i : H^{n-i}(X; \mathbb{C}) \xrightarrow{\cup [H]^i} H^{n+i}(X; \mathbb{C})$$

is an isomorphism, for all integers $i \geq 0$.

No, the statement as written is not generally correct. Let's carefully analyze the situation.

The “residue” of a function $f(z, w)$ with respect to w at a root b_i is related to the partial derivative of f with respect to w . Specifically, for a fixed z , if $f(z, w)$ has roots $w = b_1, b_2, \dots, b_d$, then the residue of f at $w = b_i$ is given by:

$$\operatorname{Res}_{w=b_i} \left(\frac{1}{f(z, w)} \right) = \frac{1}{\frac{\partial f}{\partial w}(z, b_i)}.$$

The residue you seem to be referring to might be the **sum of the residues**. The sum of the residues of a meromorphic function

$\frac{1}{f(z,w)}$ over all its poles $w = b_1, \dots, b_d$ (roots of $f(z, w) = 0$) is given by:

$$\sum_{i=1}^d \operatorname{Res}_{w=b_i} \left(\frac{1}{f(z, w)} \right).$$

Using the residue theorem, this sum is typically related to the behavior of $f(z, w)$ at infinity or some global property, but it is not simply the sum of the roots $b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_d$.

Important Note:

If $f(z, w)$ is a polynomial in w of degree d , then *Viète's formulas* imply that the sum of the roots $b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_d$ is given by the coefficient of w^{d-1} (up to a sign) in $f(z, w)$, divided by the leading coefficient of w^d . This is unrelated to residues.

Bibliography

- [1] A. Hatcher. *Algebraic Topology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002.