

# COHOMOLOGY OF CONES

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## 1. SUMMARY

If  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^N$  is a smooth projective variety with dimension  $n$  and  $C(X)$  is the projective cone over  $X$ , then if  $C(X)$  satisfies Poincare duality over  $\mathbb{Z}$  we must have  $H^k(X; \mathbb{Z}) \simeq H^{k+2}(X; \mathbb{Z})$  for all  $k$ , and I think the multiplication by the class of a hyperplane gives the isomorphism. Similar statement for Poincare duality over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , with  $\mathbb{Q}$ -coefficients. When  $X$  is a hypersurface of degree  $d > 1$  this is impossible, as is shown by an explicit calculation of the cohomology of  $X$  (or at least all of its Betti numbers).

However, if  $d < N$ ,  $C(X)$  has terminal singularities and when  $N > 3$   $X$  is  $\mathbb{Q}$ -factorial. Not sure about analytically  $\mathbb{Q}$ -factorial but I would guess so (we are only dealing with one isolated singularity, and its a cone point...).

## 2. (CO)HOMOLOGY OF CONES

Let  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^N$  be a smooth projective variety and let  $C(X) \subset \mathbb{P}^{N+1}$  be the (projective) cone over  $X$ . We begin with a basic observation:

*Proposition 1.* The projective cone  $C(X)$  is the Thom space of the geometric line bundle  $L$  on  $X$  associated to the invertible sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_X(1)$ .

*Remark.* I am following “Fulton” conventions for moving between locally free sheaves and vector bundles. This means that  $\mathcal{O}_X(1)$  is the sheaf of local sections of  $L$ . If this irritates you ... sorry. In particular,  $L$  has a global section.

*Proof.* Recall that the Thom space  $\text{Th}(L)$  can be constructed as follows: start with the  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -bundle  $\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O}_X(1) \oplus \mathcal{O}_X)$ . It has 2 interesting global sections,  $\sigma_0, \sigma_\infty$  corresponding to the inclusions

$$X \simeq \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O}_X) \subset \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O}_X(1) \oplus \mathcal{O}_X) \text{ and}$$

$$X \simeq \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O}_X(1)) \subset \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O}_X(1) \oplus \mathcal{O}_X)$$

The difference between these global sections is that the normal bundle of  $\sigma_0(X)$  can be identified with  $\mathcal{O}_X(1)$  while the normal bundle of  $\sigma_\infty(X)$  can be identified with  $\mathcal{O}_X(-1)$ . We have

$$\text{Th}(L) = \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O}_X(1) \oplus \mathcal{O}_X) / \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O}_X(1))$$

(this may not be the most standard description, but see [Ati89]). To see that this is the cone, blow up the vertex  $p \in C(X)$  and observe that

- $\text{Bl}_p C(X) \simeq \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O}_X(1) \oplus \mathcal{O}_X)$  and
- The exceptional divisor  $E \subset \text{Bl}_p C(X)$  over  $p$  is exactly  $\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O}_X(1))$ .

This is just a projective version of the fact that the blowup of the *affine* cone  $C_{\text{aff}}(X)$  at the vertex  $p \in C_{\text{aff}}(X)$  is the geometric line bundle  $L^\vee$  associated to  $\mathcal{O}_X(-1)$ , with the exceptional divisor  $E \subset C_{\text{aff}}(X)$  corresponding to the zero-divisor  $X \subset L^\vee$ .

□

*Remark.* Alternatively, view points  $l \in X$  as lines  $l \subset \mathbb{A}^{N+1}$ . Then a vector in  $L_l$  is a linear functional  $\lambda : l \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ . The graph of  $\lambda$  is a line  $\lambda(l) \subset \mathbb{A}^{N+2}$ , which we can view as a point  $\lambda(l) \in \mathbb{P}^{N+1}$ . Since omitting the last coordinate of  $\lambda(l)$  gives back the line  $l$ , we see that in fact  $\lambda(l) \in C(X)$ , and so we have a map

$$\varphi : L \rightarrow C(X)$$

At this point one checks that it's an isomorphism onto  $C(X) \setminus \{p\}$ , and as  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\lambda(l) \rightarrow p$ , so that  $\varphi$  extends to the one-point-compactification  $\text{Th}(L)$ , yielding a homeomorphism  $\text{Th}(L) \simeq C(X)$ .

Now let's recall the classic

*Theorem 1* (Thom isomorphism theorem). Let  $X$  be a reasonable space (say with the homotopy type of a CW complex) and let  $E \xrightarrow{\pi} X$  be an oriented real vector bundle. Then there is a class  $\tau(E) \in \tilde{H}^*(\text{Th}(E); \mathbb{Z})$  generating  $\tilde{H}^*(\text{Th}(E); \mathbb{Z})$  as a free  $H^*(X; \mathbb{Z})$ -module of rank 1.

There is a parallel Thom isomorphism identifying  $H_i(X; \mathbb{Z}) \simeq \tilde{H}_{i+r}(\text{Th}(E); \mathbb{Z})$ .

*Remark.* The  $H^*(X; \mathbb{Z})$ -module structure comes from the identification  $\tilde{H}^*(\text{Th}(E); \mathbb{Z}) \simeq H^*(E, E \setminus X; \mathbb{Z})$ .

Applying this result, we obtain

*Proposition 2.* There is a class  $\tau(L) \in \tilde{H}^2(C(X); \mathbb{Z})$  generating  $\tilde{H}^*(C(X); \mathbb{Z})$  as a free  $H^*(X; \mathbb{Z})$ -module of rank 1. Similarly there are identifications  $H_i(X; \mathbb{Z}) \simeq \tilde{H}_{i+2}(C(X); \mathbb{Z})$ .

*Remark.* In the matter at hand, the tildes translate to:

$$H^k(C(X); \mathbb{Z}) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & \text{if } k = 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } k = 1 \\ H^{k-2}(X; \mathbb{Z}) & \text{if } k > 1 \end{cases}$$

Now: assuming  $X$  is smooth, we have a fundamental class  $[X] \in H_{2n}(X; \mathbb{Z})$  (here  $n$  is the complex dimension of  $X$ ) and Poincare duality states that the cap product with the fundamental class

$$H^k(X; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H_{2n-k}(X; \mathbb{Z}) \text{ sending } \alpha \mapsto \alpha \cap [X]$$

is an isomorphism. We also have the universal coefficient formula, which provides exact sequences

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Ext}^1(H_{k-1}(X; \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^k(X; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(H_k(X; \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow 0$$

Of course, we can say much more about the general structure of  $H^*(X; \mathbb{Z})$ , using e.g. the hard Lefschetz theorem - more on that later.

Suppose for a minute that Poincare duality also holds on  $C(X)$ . Which is to say, we have isomorphisms

$$H^k(C(X); \mathbb{Z}) \simeq H_{2(n+1)-k}(C(X); \mathbb{Z})$$

presumably given by capping with a fundamental class. Note that the obvious choice of fundamental class would be the image of  $[X]$  under the isomorphism  $H_{2n}(X; \mathbb{Z}) \simeq H_{2(n+1)}(C(X); \mathbb{Z})$ . This will place serious restrictions on the (co)homology of  $X$ , since we must have

$$H^k(X; \mathbb{Z}) \simeq H^{k+2}(C(X); \mathbb{Z}) \simeq H_{2(n+1)-k-2}(C(X); \mathbb{Z}) \simeq H_{2n-k-2}(X; \mathbb{Z})$$

Now Poincare duality on  $X$  provides an isomorphism

$$H_{2n-k-2}(X; \mathbb{Z}) \simeq H^{k+2}(X; \mathbb{Z})$$

and in this way we see that  $H^k(X; \mathbb{Z}) \simeq H^{k+2}(X; \mathbb{Z})$  for all  $k$ . Also, it should be noted that since  $H^1(C(X); \mathbb{Z}) = 0$  we must have  $H_{2(n+1)-1}(C(X); \mathbb{Z}) = 0$  and hence  $H_{2n-1}(X; \mathbb{Z}) = 0$ , and so  $H^1(X; \mathbb{Z}) = 0$ . Since  $H^0(X; \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}$  we conclude that

$$H^k(X; \mathbb{Z}) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & \text{if } k \text{ is even} \\ 0 & \text{if } k \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

*Remark.* I am pretty sure that the isomorphism  $H_{2n-k-2}(X; \mathbb{Z}) \simeq H^{k+2}(X; \mathbb{Z})$  obtained above coincides with multiplication by the Chern class  $c_1(\mathcal{O}_X(1))$ . Given  $\alpha \in H^k(X; \mathbb{Z})$ , we obtain  $\alpha \smile \tau \in H^{k+2}(C(X); \mathbb{Z})$ . From this we obtain  $\alpha \smile \tau \cap [C(X)] \in H_{2(n+1)-k-2}(C(X); \mathbb{Z})$  and ... see here's where I really need to know the homology version of the Thom isomorphism. (Idea: this is the pullback of  $\tau$  along the usual inclusion  $X \subset C(X)$ ). Knowing this would put even further restrictions on  $X$ .

The basic example of this phenomenon is when  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^n$  is a linear subspace, hence so is  $C(X) \subset \mathbb{P}^{n+1}$ . It's a little difficult to think of other such examples.

I'd like to also observe that our conditions on  $H^*(X; \mathbb{Z})$  are not sufficient to guarantee Poincare duality for  $H^*(C(X); \mathbb{Z})$ . To see this, let  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^2$  be a conic. Assuming the remark, Poincare duality for  $C(X)$  would imply that multiplication by  $c_1(\mathcal{O}_X(1))$  gives an isomorphism  $\mathbb{Z} \simeq H^0(X; \mathbb{Z}) \simeq H^2(X; \mathbb{Z}) \simeq \mathbb{Z}$  which is false (it acts as multiplication by 2). Note however that if we worked over  $\mathbb{Q}$  or a finite field  $k$  of characteristic not 2 (instead of  $\mathbb{Z}$ , multiplication by  $c_1$  actually would give an isomorphism. The reason one should expect some funny business at the prime 2 in this example is that  $C(X)$  is isomorphic to the quotient of  $\mathbb{P}^2$  by the involution (a.k.a.  $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -action

$$t : \mathbb{P}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^2 \text{ sending } [x, y, z] \mapsto [-x, -y, z]$$

Similar remarks hold for rational normal curves of degree  $d$ , Veronese embeddings of  $\mathbb{P}^n$ , etc.

**2.1. The singularity class of a cone point.** I recall a simplified form of the criteria in Lemma 3.1 of *Singularities of the MMP*:

*Proposition 3.* Let  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^N$  be a smooth projective variety. Then the projective cone  $C(X) \subset \mathbb{P}^{N+1}$  is  $\mathbb{Q}$ -Gorenstein if and only if  $r \cdot c_1(\mathcal{O}_X(1)) = K_X$  for some  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$ , and in this situation  $C(X)$  is

- terminal if and only if  $r < -1$ ,
- canonical if and only if  $r \leq -1$ ,
- klt if and only if  $r < 0$  and
- lc if and only if  $r \leq 0$ .

More precisely, if we resolve the singularities of  $C(X)$  by blowing up the vertex, the discrepancy of the exceptional divisor  $E \subset \text{Bl}_0 C(X)$  is  $-1 - r$ .

Some relevant corollaries, in no particular order:

*Example 1.* Suppose  $X$  is a degree  $d$  hypersurface. Then  $\omega_X \simeq \mathcal{O}_X(d - N - 1)$ , and so we have

$$r \cdot c_1(\mathcal{O}_X(1)) = K_X \text{ with } r = d - N - 1$$

Hence we see that  $C(X)$  is terminal when  $d < N$ , canonical when  $d = N$  and lc when  $d = N + 1$ . When  $d > N + 1$  it's not even lc.

One can generalize this example to complete intersections.

*Example 2.* More generally, a cone over an anti-canonically embedded Fano variety is always at least klt. A cone over a variety with trivial canonical (e.g. a Calabi-Yau variety) is always at least lc.

**2.2. The link at a cone point.** Looking into any of the standard proofs of Poincare duality one sees that a key property of a manifold  $M$  exploited at various stages is that for any point  $p \in M$ ,

$$H^k(M, M \setminus \{p\}; \mathbb{Z}) \simeq \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & \text{if } k = \dim M \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

This property is axiomatized as follows: let  $X$  be a reasonable topological space (e.g. a CW-complex).

*Definition 1.*  $X$  is a **homology  $n$ -manifold** if and only if for every point  $p \in X$ ,

$$H^k(X, X \setminus \{p\}; \mathbb{Z}) \simeq \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & \text{if } k = n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

If  $Y$  is an  $n$ -dimensional complex variety, then it is generically smooth, so it could only be a homology  $2n$ -manifold. Furthermore if  $p \in Y$  is a point with a neighborhood  $U \subset X$  that deformation-retracts onto  $p$ , then by excision  $H^k(Y, Y \setminus \{p\}; \mathbb{Z}) \simeq H^k(U, U \setminus \{p\}; \mathbb{Z})$  and by the relative cohomology exact sequence  $H^k(U, U \setminus \{p\}; \mathbb{Z}) \simeq H^{k-1}(U \setminus \{p\}; \mathbb{Z})$ . If  $Y$  is an affine variety sitting in  $\mathbb{C}^N$  (always the case locally) and  $S_\epsilon(p)$  is a sphere of radius  $\epsilon$  centered at  $p$ , then for suitably small  $U$  and  $\epsilon$  one has  $U \setminus \{p\} \approx S_\epsilon(p)$  where here  $\approx$  denotes homotopy equivalence. . In this way we see that

$$H^k(Y, Y \setminus \{p\}; \mathbb{Z}) \simeq H^{k-1}(S_\epsilon(p); \mathbb{Z}) \text{ for all } k$$

*Definition 2.* The space  $S_\epsilon(p)$  is called the **link of  $X$  at  $p$** .

To justify the terminology “the” one shows that it is independent of  $\epsilon$  for sufficiently small  $\epsilon$  (up to homeomorphism, say).

*Proposition 4.* If  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^N$  is a smooth projective variety and  $C_a(X) \subset \mathbb{P}^{N+1}$  is the affine cone over  $X$ , with vertex  $p \in C(X)$ , then the link  $S_\epsilon(p)$  is the  $S^1$ -bundle (a.k.a. circle bundle) associated to the invertible sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_X(-1)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\pi : \text{Bl}_p C_a(X) \rightarrow C(X)$  be the blow-up of  $C_a(X)$  at  $p$ . Recall that  $\text{Bl}_p C_a(X) \simeq L^\vee$ , the geometric line bundle associated to  $\mathcal{O}_X(-1)$ , with exceptional divisor  $E \simeq X$  corresponding to the 0-section. The preimage of a  $\epsilon$ -sphere  $S_\epsilon(p) \subset C_a(X)$  at  $p$  is the  $\epsilon$ -sphere *bundle* of  $L^\vee$ .  $\square$

To relate the topology of  $S_\epsilon(p)$  to that of  $X$ , we can use the long exact sequence on homotopy groups

$$\cdots \rightarrow \pi_i(S^1) \rightarrow \pi_i(S_\epsilon(p)) \rightarrow \pi_i(X) \xrightarrow{\partial} \pi_{i-1}(S^1) \rightarrow \cdots$$

Since  $\pi_i(S^1) = 0$  for  $i > 1$  and all the spaces are connected, this reduces to an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \pi_2(S_\epsilon(p)) \rightarrow \pi_2(X) \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}$$

$$\rightarrow \pi_1(S_\epsilon(p)) \rightarrow \pi_1(X) \rightarrow \pi_0(S^1) \rightarrow 0$$

together with isomorphisms  $\pi_i(S_\epsilon(p)) \simeq \pi_i(X)$  for  $i > 2$ . As for cohomology, we have a Gysin sequence of the form

$$\begin{aligned} \cdots \rightarrow H^{k-2}(X; \mathbb{Z}) &\xrightarrow{-c_1} H^k(X; \mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow{\pi^*} H^k(S_\epsilon(p); \mathbb{Z}) \\ &\rightarrow H^{k-1}(X; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \cdots \end{aligned}$$

where  $c_1$  is the first Chern class of  $\mathcal{O}_X(1)$  and  $\pi : S_\epsilon(p) \rightarrow X$  is the projection.

Now let's recall a variant of the hard Lefschetz theorem:

*Theorem 2* (Lefschetz). Let  $X$  be a smooth projective variety of dimension  $n$  and let  $c_1$  be its first Chern class. Then multiplication by  $c_1$

$$H^k(X; \mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow H^{k+2}(X; \mathbb{Q})$$

is *injective* for  $k < n$ , and *surjective* for  $k > n$ .

*Remark.* This is only true with  $\mathbb{Q}$  coefficients, as one can see by considering a rational normal curve of degree  $d > 1$  (or more generally a Veronese embedding of degree  $d > 1$ ). However via the universal coefficient theorem one obtains a statement about integral cohomology (below the middle dimension the kernel of  $c_1$  is torsion, above the middle dimension the cokernel is torsion).

*Remark.* It's because of this theorem that the Hodge diamond is, well, a diamond.

Applying this theorem we see that after tensoring with  $\mathbb{Q}$ , for  $k - 2 < n$  the Gysin sequence breaks up into short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^{k-2}(X; \mathbb{Q}) \xrightarrow{c_1} H^k(X; \mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow H^k(S_\epsilon(p); \mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow 0$$

Similarly for  $k - 2 > n$  we have short exact sequences

$$0 \rightarrow H^{k-1}(S_\epsilon(p); \mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow H^{k-2}(X; \mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow H^k(X; \mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow 0$$

*Example 3.* Let's actually take a closer look at cone over a Veronese. Let  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^N$  be the image of  $\mathbb{P}^n$  under the  $d$ -th Veronese embedding, and let  $C(X)$  be the cone over  $X$ , with vertex  $p$ . Then  $\mathcal{O}_X(1) \simeq \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^n}(d)$  and so  $c_1(\mathcal{O}_X(d)) = dh$ , where  $h = c_1(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^n}(1))$ . Hence the Gysin exact sequence looks like

$$\begin{aligned} \dots \rightarrow H^{k-2}(\mathbb{P}^n; \mathbb{Z}) &\xrightarrow{-dh} H^k(\mathbb{P}^n; \mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow{\pi^*} H^k(S_\epsilon(p); \mathbb{Z}) \\ &\rightarrow H^{k-1}(\mathbb{P}^n; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \dots \end{aligned}$$

Since  $H^k(\mathbb{P}^n; \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}$  generated by  $h^{\frac{k}{2}}$  if  $k$  is even and 0 otherwise, and since multiplication by  $-dh$  is always injective, we see that  $H^k(S_\epsilon(p); \mathbb{Z}) = 0$  for  $k$  odd and we obtain short exact sequences

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{-d} \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow H^k(S_\epsilon(p); \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow 0$$

for  $k$  even, showing that  $H^k(S_\epsilon(p); \mathbb{Z}) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/d$  for even  $k$ . This is not surprising since the description of  $C(X)$  as a quotient of  $\mathbb{P}^{n+1}$  by an action of  $\mu_d$  (if  $\zeta \in \mu_d$  is a primitive root, then it acts on  $[x_0, \dots, x_{n+1}]$  like

$$\zeta \cdot [x_0, \dots, x_{n+1}] = [\zeta x_0, \dots, \zeta x_n, x_{n+1}];$$

the fixed point  $[0, \dots, 0, 1]$  corresponds to the cone point) identifies  $S_\epsilon(p)$  with a lens space obtained as the quotient of a free action of  $\mu_d$  on  $S^{2n+1}$ !

**2.3. Singular cohomology of hypersurfaces.** To see how the above discussion plays out in some specific cases it will be nice to know the singular cohomology of smooth hypersurfaces (and more generally complete intersections). I actually don't know a reference for the ensuing calculations so I will just go for it.

Let  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^{n+1}$  be a smooth hypersurface and let  $\iota : X \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{n+1}$  be the inclusion. Recall

*Theorem 3* (Lefschetz). The restriction map  $\iota^* H^k(\mathbb{P}^{n+1}; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^k(X; \mathbb{Z})$  is injective for  $k \leq n$  and an isomorphism for  $k < n$ .

Knowledge of the cohomology of  $\mathbb{P}^{n+1}$  shows that for  $k < n$

$$H^k(X; \mathbb{Z}) \simeq \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & \text{if } k \text{ is odd} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

For simplicity I will assume  $n$  is (the case where  $n$  is odd is slightly more complicated). In that case we have an injection  $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow H^n(X; \mathbb{Z})$ . Poincare duality together with the universal coefficient theorem then shows that  $H^k(X; \mathbb{Z})$  is torsion-free for all  $k$  and for  $k > n$ ,

$$H^k(X; \mathbb{Z}) \simeq \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & \text{if } k \text{ is odd} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The only thing left to do is compute the rank of  $H^n(X; \mathbb{Z})$  (of course one might also want to know about the intersection form - maybe another day). The preceding discussion shows

$$\chi(X) = \sum_k \text{rk} H^k(X; \mathbb{Z}) = n + \text{rk} H^n(X; \mathbb{Z})$$

and so we just need to calculate  $\chi(X)$ . For this we can use the formula

$$\chi(X) = \int_X c_n(\tau_X)$$

the integral of the top Chern class of the tangent bundle. To get going on this integral, note that there is a short exact sequence of vector bundles on  $X$

$$0 \rightarrow \tau_X \rightarrow \iota^* \tau_{\mathbb{P}^{n+1}} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{X|\mathbb{P}^{n+1}} \rightarrow 0$$

and hence

$$c(\tau_X) = \frac{\iota^* c(\tau_{\mathbb{P}^{n+1}})}{c(\mathcal{N}_{X|\mathbb{P}^{n+1}})}$$

From the Euler exact sequence on  $\mathbb{P}^{n+1}$  we find that

$$c(\tau_{\mathbb{P}^{n+1}}) = c(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^{n+1}}(1))^{n+2} = (1+h)^{n+2}$$

and since  $\mathcal{N}_{X|\mathbb{P}^{n+1}} \simeq \mathcal{O}_X(d)$  where  $d = \deg X$ , we compute

$$c(\tau_X) = \frac{(1+h)^{n+2}}{1+dh}$$

(where I am abusively dropping the  $\iota^*$  in  $\iota^* h$ ). We need to expand this as a power series in  $h$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(1+h)^{n+2}}{1+dh} &= \left( \sum_j (-1)^j d^j h^j \right) \cdot \left( \sum_k \binom{n+2}{k} h^k \right) \\ &= \sum_{j,k} (-1)^j d^j \binom{n+2}{k} h^{j+k} \end{aligned}$$

and now recall that the integral will only pick off the degree  $n$  term: so, we find

$$\chi(X) = \sum_{j+k=n} (-1)^j d^j \binom{n+2}{k} \int_X h^n$$

and since  $\int_X h^n = d$  this is just

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j+k=n} (-1)^j d^{j+1} \binom{n+2}{k} &= \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^{n-k} d^{n-k+1} \binom{n+2}{k} \\ &= \frac{1}{d} ((1-d)^{n+2} + (n+2)d - 1) \end{aligned}$$

after a little bit of rearranging. Combining this with the formula  $\chi(X) = n + \text{rk} H^n(X; \mathbb{Z})$  we obtain

$$\text{rk} H^n(X; \mathbb{Z}) = \frac{1}{d} ((d-1)^{n+2} + (n+2)d - 1) - n$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{(d-1)^{n+2} - 1}{d} + n + 2 - n \\
&= \frac{(d-1)^{n+2} - 1}{d} + 2
\end{aligned}$$

If  $n$  is odd, the Chern class calculation is identical, but we have  $\chi(X) = n + 1 - \text{rk}H^n(X; \mathbb{Z})$ , and so

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{rk}H^n(X; \mathbb{Z}) &= n + 1 - \frac{1}{d}((1-d)^{n+2} + (n+2)d - 1) \\
&= \frac{(d-1)^{n+2} + 1}{d} - 1
\end{aligned}$$

as a reality check, note that when  $n = 1$  we recover the classic formula for the genus  $g$  of a plane curve  $X$  in terms of its degree: for in that situation

$$\begin{aligned}
2g = \text{rk}H^1(X; \mathbb{Z}) &= \frac{(d-1)^3 + 1}{d} - 1 \\
&= d^2 - 3d + 2 = (d-1)(d-2)
\end{aligned}$$

so that  $g = \frac{(d-1)(d-2)}{2}$ . Lovely! Note also that all the formulas for the rank output 1 when  $d = 1$  (so  $X = \mathbb{P}^n$ ), as they must.

## REFERENCES

- [Ati89] M. F. Atiyah. *K-Theory*. 2nd ed. Advanced Book Classics. Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, Advanced Book Program, Redwood City, CA, 1989, pp. xx+216. ISBN: 0-201-09394-4.