Computational Group Cohomology Bangalore, November 2016

Graham Ellis NUI Galway, Ireland

Slides available at http://hamilton.nuigalway.ie/Bangalore

Password: Limerick

Outline

- Lecture 1: CW spaces and their (co)homology
- Lecture 2: Algorithms for classifying spaces of groups
- Lecture 3: Homotopy 2-types
- Lecture 4: Steenrod algebra
- Lecture 5: Curvature and classifying spaces of groups

$$L =$$

$$G = \pi_1(\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus L)$$
 has presentation

$$\mathcal{P} = \langle \ x, y, z \ | \ yzxy^{-1}z^2xz^{-1}yz^{-1}, \ y^{-1}(z^{-1}y)^3(zy^{-1})^2z \ \rangle$$

$$L =$$

$$G = \pi_1(\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus L)$$
 has presentation

$$\mathcal{P} = \langle x, y, z \mid yzxy^{-1}z^2xz^{-1}yz^{-1}, y^{-1}(z^{-1}y)^3(zy^{-1})^2z \rangle$$

$$H_1(G, \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$$

$$G = \pi_1(\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus L)$$
 has presentation

$$\mathcal{P} = \langle \ x, y, z \ | \ yzxy^{-1}z^2xz^{-1}yz^{-1}, \ y^{-1}(z^{-1}y)^3(zy^{-1})^2z \ \rangle$$

$$H_1(G,\mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}, \quad H_n(G,\mathbb{Z}) = ? \quad (n \ge 2)$$

$$G = \pi_1(\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus L)$$
 has presentation

$$\mathcal{P} = \langle x, y, z \mid yzxy^{-1}z^2xz^{-1}yz^{-1}, y^{-1}(z^{-1}y)^3(zy^{-1})^2z \rangle$$

$$H_1(G,\mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}, \quad H_n(G,\mathbb{Z}) = ? \quad (n \ge 2)$$

$$X = \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{P}) = e^0 \cup e^1_x \cup e^1_y \cup e^1_z \cup e^2_1 \cup e^2_2$$

$$L =$$

 $G = \pi_1(\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus L)$ has presentation

$$\mathcal{P} = \langle \ x,y,z \mid yzxy^{-1}z^2xz^{-1}yz^{-1}, \ y^{-1}(z^{-1}y)^3(zy^{-1})^2z \ \rangle$$

$$H_1(G,\mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}, \quad H_n(G,\mathbb{Z}) = ? \quad (n \ge 2)$$

 $X = K(\mathcal{P}) = e^0 \cup e_{x}^1 \cup e_{y}^1 \cup e_{z}^1 \cup e_{z}^2 \cup e_{z}^2$

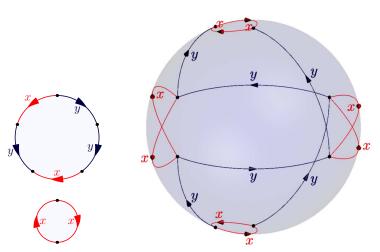
Hurewicz: $X = BG \Leftrightarrow \tilde{X}$ contractible $\Leftrightarrow \pi_2(X) = 0$

Example with $\pi_2(\mathsf{K}(\mathcal{P})) \neq \mathbf{0}$

$$\mathcal{P} = \langle x, y \mid x^2 = 1, \ y^2 x y^{-1} x^{-1} = 1 \rangle$$

Example with $\pi_2(\mathsf{K}(\mathcal{P})) \neq \mathbf{0}$

$$\mathcal{P} = \langle x, y \mid x^2 = 1, \ y^2 x y^{-1} x^{-1} = 1 \rangle$$



Star graph of $\mathcal{P} = \langle \underline{x} \mid \underline{r} \rangle$

Assume $x \in \underline{x} \Rightarrow x^{-1} \in \underline{x}$

- One vertex for each generator x
- A single edge u v if uv^{-1} occurs once as a relator corner
- A double edge u = v if uv^{-1} occurs more than once

Star graph of
$$\mathcal{P} = \langle \underline{x} \mid \underline{r} \rangle$$

Assume $x \in \underline{x} \Rightarrow x^{-1} \in \underline{x}$

- One vertex for each generator x
- A single edge u v if uv^{-1} occurs once as a relator corner
- A double edge u = v if uv^{-1} occurs more than once

Example:
$$\mathcal{P} = \langle x, y \mid x^2 = 1, \ y^2 x y^{-1} x^{-1} = 1 \rangle$$



Labelled Star graph of $\mathcal{P} = \langle \underline{x} \mid \underline{r} \rangle$

Assume $x \in \underline{x} \Rightarrow x^{-1} \in \underline{x}$

- One vertex for each generator x
- A single edge u v if uv^{-1} occurs once as a relator corner
- A double edge u = v if uv^{-1} occurs more than once
- corners assigned numerical angles: for each n-corner relator

relator angle sum
$$= (n-2)\pi$$

Example:
$$\mathcal{P} = \langle x, y \mid x^2 = 1, \ y^2 x y^{-1} x^{-1} = 1 \rangle$$



If each loop in a labelled star graph of ${\mathcal P}$ satisfies

loop angle sum $\geq 2\pi$

then
$$\pi_2(K(\mathcal{P})) = 0$$
.

If each loop in a labelled star graph of ${\mathcal P}$ satisfies

then $\pi_2(K(\mathcal{P})) = 0$.

loop angle sum $\geq 2\pi$

If each loop in a labelled star graph of ${\mathcal P}$ satisfies

loop angle sum
$$\geq 2\pi$$

If each loop in a labelled star graph of ${\mathcal P}$ satisfies

loop angle sum $\geq 2\pi$

```
then \pi_2(K(\mathcal{P})) = 0.
gap> F:=FreeGroup(3);;x:=F.1;;y:=F.2;;z:=F.3;;
gap> G:=F/[y*z*x*y^-1*z^2*x*z^-1*y*z^-1,
            v^-1*(z^-1*v)^3*(z*v^-1)^2*z];;
gap> IsAspherical(G);
fail
gap> H:=SmoothedFpGroup(G);;
```

If each loop in a labelled star graph of ${\mathcal P}$ satisfies

loop angle sum $\geq 2\pi$

```
then \pi_2(K(\mathcal{P})) = 0.
gap> F:=FreeGroup(3);;x:=F.1;;y:=F.2;;z:=F.3;;
gap> G:=F/[y*z*x*y^-1*z^2*x*z^-1*y*z^-1,
           v^-1*(z^-1*v)^3*(z*v^-1)^2*z];;
gap> IsAspherical(G);
fail
gap> H:=SmoothedFpGroup(G);;
gap> IsAspherical(H);
true
```

What if $\pi_2(K(\mathcal{P})) \neq 0$?

• If $\pi_1(K(\mathcal{P}))$ is finite or nilpotent use a resolution from previous lectures.

What if $\pi_2(K(\mathcal{P})) \neq 0$?

- If $\pi_1(K(\mathcal{P}))$ is finite or nilpotent use a resolution from previous lectures.
- Else try to find a useful representation of $\pi_1(K(\mathcal{P}))$ from which one can construct a nice contractible space to which Wall's technique applies.

What if
$$\pi_2(K(\mathcal{P})) \neq 0$$
 ?

- If $\pi_1(K(\mathcal{P}))$ is finite or nilpotent use a resolution from previous lectures.
- Else try to find a useful representation of $\pi_1(K(\mathcal{P}))$ from which one can construct a nice contractible space to which Wall's technique applies.

Triangle groups

$$T = T(I, m, n) = \langle a, b \mid a^I = b^m = (ab^{-1})^n = 1 \rangle$$



What if $\pi_2(K(\mathcal{P})) \neq 0$?

- If $\pi_1(K(\mathcal{P}))$ is finite or nilpotent use a resolution from previous lectures.
- Else try to find a useful representation of $\pi_1(K(\mathcal{P}))$ from which one can construct a nice contractible space to which Wall's technique applies.

Triangle groups

$$T = T(I, m, n) = \langle a, b \mid a^I = b^m = (ab^{-1})^n = 1 \rangle$$

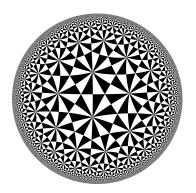
act on

$$X = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \mathbb{H}^2 & \text{(hyperbolic plane)}, & \text{if } 1/I + 1/m + 1/n < 1 \\ \mathbb{R}^2 & \text{(real plane)}, & \text{if } 1/I + 1/m + 1/n = 1 \\ \mathbb{S}^2 & \text{(2-sphere)}, & \text{if } 1/I + 1/m + 1/n > 1 \end{array} \right.$$

with finite cyclic stabilizers.



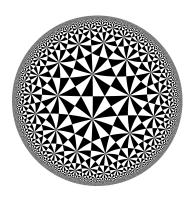
T(2,3,7) and T(2,3,5)





 Δ is a triangle whose geodesic sides subtend angles $\pi/I, \pi/m, \pi/n$. $\Delta \cup \sigma(\Delta)$ is a fundamental domain.

T(2,3,7) and T(2,3,5)





 Δ is a triangle whose geodesic sides subtend angles π/I , π/m , π/n . $\Delta \cup \sigma(\Delta)$ is a fundamental domain.

For $X=\mathbb{R}^2$ and $X=\mathbb{H}^2$

$$R_*^T \colon \cdots \to (\mathbb{Z}T)^3 \to (\mathbb{Z}T)^3 \to (\mathbb{Z}T)^3 \to (\mathbb{Z}T)^4 \to (\mathbb{Z}T)^5 \to (\mathbb{Z}T)^3$$

Generalized triangle groups (first studied by Coxeter, Sinkov)

$$G = G(I, m, n) = \langle x, y \mid x^{I} = y^{m} = [x, y]^{n} = 1 \rangle$$

Generalized triangle groups (first studied by Coxeter, Sinkov)

$$G = G(I, m, n) = \langle x, y \mid x^{I} = y^{m} = [x, y]^{n} = 1 \rangle$$

Hagelberg (1995): acts on \mathbb{H}^3 with triangle stabilizers if

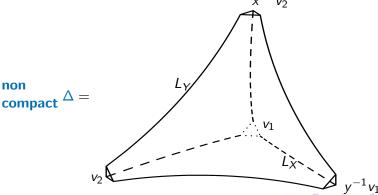
$$2/|I| + 1/|n| \le 1$$
 and $2/|m| + 1/|n| \le 1$.

Generalized triangle groups (first studied by Coxeter, Sinkov)

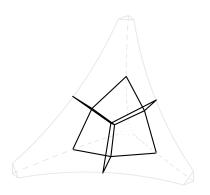
$$G = G(I, m, n) = \langle x, y \mid x^{I} = y^{m} = [x, y]^{n} = 1 \rangle$$

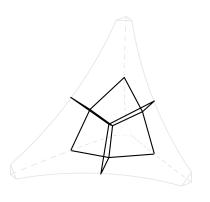
Hagelberg (1995): acts on \mathbb{H}^3 with triangle stabilizers if

$$2/|I| + 1/|n| \le 1$$
 and $2/|m| + 1/|n| \le 1$.

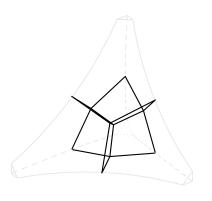






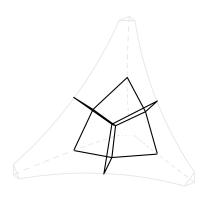


$$X = \nabla^G \stackrel{\simeq}{\longrightarrow} \mathbb{H}^3$$



$$X=\nabla^G \stackrel{\simeq}{\longleftarrow} \mathbb{H}^3$$

$$C_*(X): 0 \to (\mathbb{Z}_G \otimes_{\langle x \rangle} \mathbb{Z}) \oplus (\mathbb{Z}_G \otimes_{\langle y \rangle} \mathbb{Z}) \oplus (\mathbb{Z}_G \otimes_{\langle [x,y] \rangle} \mathbb{Z}) \to (\mathbb{Z}G)^2 \to \mathbb{Z}G$$



$$X = \nabla^G \stackrel{\simeq}{\longleftrightarrow} \mathbb{H}^3$$

$$C_*(X): 0 \to (\mathbb{Z}_G \otimes_{\langle x \rangle} \mathbb{Z}) \oplus (\mathbb{Z}_G \otimes_{\langle y \rangle} \mathbb{Z}) \oplus (\mathbb{Z}_G \otimes_{\langle [x,y] \rangle} \mathbb{Z}) \to (\mathbb{Z}_G)^2 \to \mathbb{Z}_G$$

$$R_*^G: \stackrel{eta}{ o} (\mathbb{Z}G)^3 \stackrel{lpha}{ o} (\mathbb{Z}G)^3 \stackrel{eta}{ o} (\mathbb{Z}G)^3 \stackrel{lpha}{ o} (\mathbb{Z}G)^3 o (\mathbb{Z}G)^3 o (\mathbb{Z}G)^2 o \mathbb{Z}G$$



Contraction of $X = \mathbb{R}^n$ or \mathbb{H}^n

$$H: X \times [0,1] \longrightarrow X$$

with H(x, t) the unique geodesic path from x to base-point x_0

Contraction of $X = \mathbb{R}^n$ or \mathbb{H}^n

$$H: X \times [0,1] \longrightarrow X$$

with H(x, t) the unique geodesic path from x to base-point x_0

Theorem (Gromov et al.)

A piecewise euclidean/hyperbolic CW complex X is a unique geodesic space if $\pi_1 X = 0$ and the link of each cell is a piecewise spherical CW complex with no geodesic loop of length less than 2π .

The link of a point x in a piecewise euclidean/hyperbolic space is the set of tangent vectors at x.

The link of a point x in a piecewise euclidean/hyperbolic space is the set of tangent vectors at x.

The link of a cell e^n is the set of those unit tangent vectors at one of its points $x \in e^n$ which are orthogonal to all those tangent vectors lying in the cell.

The link of a point x in a piecewise euclidean/hyperbolic space is the set of tangent vectors at x.

The link of a cell e^n is the set of those unit tangent vectors at one of its points $x \in e^n$ which are orthogonal to all those tangent vectors lying in the cell.

The link of e^n inherits a piecewise spherical CW-structure.

The link of a point x in a piecewise euclidean/hyperbolic space is the set of tangent vectors at x.

The link of a cell e^n is the set of those unit tangent vectors at one of its points $x \in e^n$ which are orthogonal to all those tangent vectors lying in the cell.

The link of e^n inherits a piecewise spherical CW-structure.

Example

For the cubical tesselation of \mathbb{R}^3 , the link of a point x in an edge e^1 is a sphere. The link of e^1 is a circle.



$$(m_{ij}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 5 \\ 2 & 5 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \bullet \bullet \stackrel{5}{\bullet} \qquad G = \langle \sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3 \rangle$$
$$\sigma_i \colon \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^3, v \mapsto v - 2\langle e_i, v \rangle e_i$$
$$\langle e_i, e_j \rangle = -\cos(\pi/m_{ij})$$

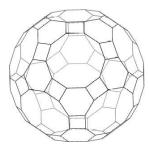
$$(m_{ij}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 5 \\ 2 & 5 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\bullet \bullet 5 \bullet \qquad G = \langle \sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3 \rangle$$

$$\sigma_i \colon \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^3, v \mapsto v - 2\langle e_i, v \rangle e_i$$

$$\langle e_i, e_j \rangle = -\cos(\pi/m_{ij})$$

Convex hull of v^G



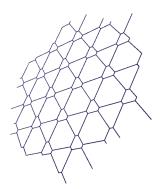
$$(m_{ij}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$G = \langle \sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3 \rangle$$

$$(m_{ij}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$G = \langle \sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3 \rangle$$

Convex hulls of cosets of finite subgroups of G

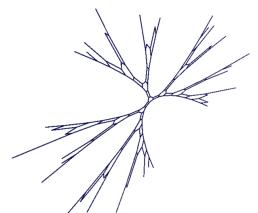


$$(m_{ij}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & \infty \\ 2 & \infty & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\bullet \longrightarrow \bullet \qquad G = \langle \sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3 \rangle$$

$$(m_{ij}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & \infty \\ 2 & \infty & 1 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \bullet \longrightarrow \qquad G = \langle \sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3 \rangle$$

Convex hulls of cosets of finite subgroups of G



 $S = \{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n\}$, $G = \langle S \rangle$, X = piecewise euclidean complex

$$S=\{\sigma_1,\ldots,\sigma_n\}$$
, $G=\langle S \rangle$, $X=$ piecewise euclidean complex cosets of **finite** subgroups

k-cells of X
$$\ \leftrightarrow \ \langle \sigma_{i_1}, \dots, \sigma_{i_k} \rangle \leq G$$

$$S=\{\sigma_1,\ldots,\sigma_n\}$$
, $G=\langle S \rangle$, $X=$ piecewise euclidean complex cosets of **finite** subgroups

$$k$$
-cells of X $\ \leftrightarrow$ $\langle \sigma_{i_1}, \dots, \sigma_{i_k} \rangle \leq G$

$$\operatorname{Link}(1,X) \cong \operatorname{Simplicial\ complex}\ \{\mathit{T} \subset \mathit{S}\ :\ 1 \neq |\langle \mathit{T} \rangle| < \infty\}$$

$$S=\{\sigma_1,\ldots,\sigma_n\},\ G=\langle S\rangle,\ X=$$
 piecewise euclidean complex cosets of **finite** subgroups k -cells of X \leftrightarrow

k-cells of
$$X \leftrightarrow \langle \sigma_{i_1}, \dots, \sigma_{i_k} \rangle \leq G$$

$$\operatorname{Link}(1,X) \cong \operatorname{Simplicial\ complex}\ \{T \subset S\ :\ 1 \neq |\langle T \rangle| < \infty\}$$

Theorem (Davis '93)

The Coxeter complex X is contractible and admits an action of G with all stabilizers finite

$$S=\{\sigma_1,\ldots,\sigma_n\}$$
, $G=\langle S \rangle$, $X=$ piecewise euclidean complex cosets of **finite** subgroups k -cells of X \leftrightarrow

k-cells of
$$X \leftrightarrow \langle \sigma_{i_1}, \dots, \sigma_{i_k} \rangle \leq G$$

$$\operatorname{Link}(1,X) \cong \operatorname{Simplicial\ complex}\ \{T \subset S \ : \ 1 \neq |\langle T \rangle| < \infty\}$$

Theorem (Davis '93)

The Coxeter complex X is contractible and admits an action of G with all stabilizers finite Coxeter groups.

$$S = \{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n\}, \ G = \langle S \rangle, \ X = \text{piecewise euclidean complex}$$
 cosets of **finite** subgroups

$$k$$
-cells of $X \leftrightarrow \langle \sigma_{i_1}, \dots, \sigma_{i_k} \rangle \leq G$

$$\operatorname{Link}(1,X) \cong \operatorname{Simplicial\ complex}\ \{T \subset S \ : \ 1 \neq |\langle T \rangle| < \infty\}$$

Theorem (Davis '93)

The Coxeter complex X is contractible and admits an action of G with all stabilizers finite Coxeter groups.

There is a free $\mathbb{Z}G$ -resoluton R_*^G whose generators in degree k correspond to sub k-multisets of S that generate a finite group.



$$S = \{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n\}, G = \langle S \rangle$$

$$v \in \mathbb{R}^n, t(v) = \{\sigma \in S : \sigma(v) \neq v\}$$

$$S = \{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n\}, \ G = \langle S \rangle$$
$$v \in \mathbb{R}^n, \ t(v) = \{\sigma \in S : \ \sigma(v) \neq v\}$$

Combinatorial description of P(G, v) available:

• faces e^k of

$$P(G, v) = \text{Convex Hull}(v^G)$$

indexed be their centres $c(e^k)$;

• stabilizer of e^k is generated by $S = t(c(e^k))$.

$$S = \{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n\}, G = \langle S \rangle$$

$$v \in \mathbb{R}^n, t(v) = \{\sigma \in S : \sigma(v) \neq v\}$$

Combinatorial description of P(G, v) available:

• faces e^k of

$$P(G, v) = \text{Convex Hull}(v^G)$$

indexed be their centres $c(e^k)$;

• stabilizer of e^k is generated by $S = t(c(e^k))$.

Mathieu Group M₂₄

$$P(M_{24}, v) = P(S_{24}, v)$$
 for $v = (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 0, \dots, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^{24}$

$$S = \{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n\}, \ G = \langle S \rangle$$
$$v \in \mathbb{R}^n, \ t(v) = \{\sigma \in S : \ \sigma(v) \neq v\}$$

Combinatorial description of P(G, v) available:

faces e^k of

$$P(G, v) = \text{Convex Hull}(v^G)$$

indexed be their centres $c(e^k)$;

• stabilizer of e^k is generated by $S = t(c(e^k))$.

Mathieu Group M₂₄

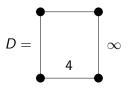
$$P(M_{24}, v) = P(S_{24}, v) \text{ for } v = (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 0, \dots, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^{24}$$

There is a free $\mathbb{Z}M_{24}$ -resolution $R_*^{M_{24}}$ with $1, 9, 50, 204, 649, \dots$ free generators in degrees $0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$



Artin groups

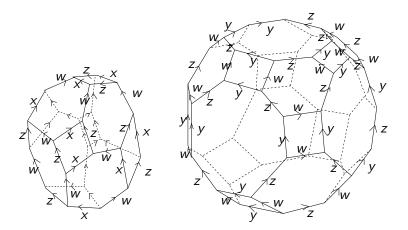
To any Coxeter diagram



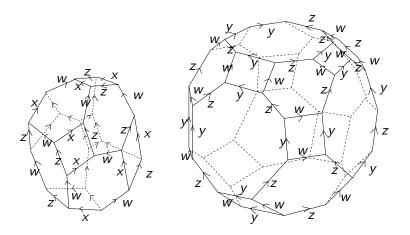
is associated a Coxeter group W_D and Artin group

$$A_D = \langle w, x, y, z : wxw = xwx, wy = yw, wzw = zwz, \\ xz = zx, yzyz = zyzy \rangle$$

Associated to D is a finite CW space B_D .



Associated to D is a finite CW space B_D .



The $K(\pi, 1)$ Conjecture: $\widetilde{B_D}$ is contractible.

The conjecture is true for many D. [Deligne '72, Appel & Schupp '83, Charney & Davis '95, ...]

The conjecture is true for many *D*. [Deligne '72, Appel & Schupp '83, Charney & Davis '95, ...]

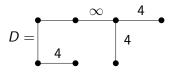
Theorem:(E, Sköldberg '10)

An Artin group A_D satisfies the conjecture if $A_{D'}$ satisfies conjecture for every ∞ -free full subgraph D' in D.

The conjecture is true for many *D*. [Deligne '72, Appel & Schupp '83, Charney & Davis '95, ...]

Theorem:(E, Sköldberg '10)

An Artin group A_D satisfies the conjecture if $A_{D'}$ satisfies conjecture for every ∞ -free full subgraph D' in D.



$$\begin{array}{ll} H^0(A_D,\mathbb{Z})\cong\mathbb{Z}, & H^1(A_D,\mathbb{Z})\cong\mathbb{Z}^5, \\ H^2(A_D,\mathbb{Z})\cong\mathbb{Z}^{11}, & H^3(A_D,\mathbb{Z})\cong\mathbb{Z}_2\oplus\mathbb{Z}^{14}, \\ H^4(A_D,\mathbb{Z})\cong\mathbb{Z}_2^2\oplus\mathbb{Z}^{12}, & H^5(A_D,\mathbb{Z})\cong\mathbb{Z}_2\oplus\mathbb{Z}^6, \\ H^6(A_D,\mathbb{Z})\cong\mathbb{Z}, & H^n(A_D,\mathbb{Z})=0 \ (n\geq 7). \end{array}$$

bahut dhanyavaad