FINITE COMPLEXES AND INTEGRAL REPRESENTATIONS II

BY

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ABSTRACT. In the paper "Finite complexes and integral representations" [Illinois Journal of Math, 26, (1982), p 442] an exact sequence relating homotopy types of (G, d)-complexes with objects of integral representation theory together with some known calculations seemed to imply that the group of homotopy types of (G, d)-complexes was always a subquotient of $(\mathbb{Z}/|g|)^*$. This paper gives a new characterization of one of the terms of the above sequence that allows one to conclude that this is not generally true.

0. **Introduction.** If one attempts to classify connected, finite, *m*-dimensional CW complexes with fundamental group G and *m*-connected universal covering, one is quickly led, via the work of MacLane–Whitehead [3] and Wall [11], to the study of chain homotopy types of truncated finitely generated $\mathbb{Z}G$ -free resolutions of the trivial G-module \mathbb{Z} .

In his thesis, W. Browning [1] defined finite abelian groups $h^{d+1}(G, l)$ (respectively $cl^{d+1}(G, l)$) which classify up to chain homotopy equivalence truncated finitely generated free (resp. projective) resolutions of \mathbb{Z} of length dand Euler characteristic l provided there exists one such resolution \mathbb{P}_* with $H_d(\mathbb{P}_*)$ an Eichler module [5]. In [6] these groups were related to objects of integral representation theory. More precisely, if

$$\mathbb{P}: 0 \to M \to P_d \to P_{d-1} \to \cdots \to P_0 \to \mathbb{Z} \to 0$$

is a truncated finitely generated projective resolution of length d and Euler characteristic l, there exists an exact sequence

(*)
$$K_1(\operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{Z}G} M) \xrightarrow{\operatorname{det}} (\mathbb{Z}/|G|)^* \xrightarrow{\sigma} \operatorname{cl}^{d+1}(G, l) \to \tilde{\mathfrak{G}}(M) \to 0.$$

 $\tilde{\mathfrak{G}}(M)$ is the reduced genus group of M consisting of all formal differences $\{[M]-[N], M_p \simeq N_p \text{ for all primes } p\}$. For $\alpha \in GL(n, \operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{Z}G} M) = \operatorname{Aut}_{\mathbb{Z}G} M^n$, det $[\alpha]$ is the determinant of the automorphism α^* of $(\mathbb{Z}/|G|)^n$, where $\alpha^* = k_p^{-n} \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathbb{Z}G}^{d+1}(1, \alpha) k_p^n$ and $k_p : \mathbb{Z}/|G| \to \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathbb{Z}G}^{d+1}(\mathbb{Z}, M)$ is the canonical isomorphism. Moreover there exists a homorphism $t : \operatorname{cl}^{d+1}(G, l) \to \tilde{K}_0(\mathbb{Z}G)$ such that

$$(\mathbb{Z}/|G|)^* \xrightarrow{\sigma} \operatorname{cl}^{d+1}(G, l)$$

$$\bigvee_{\tilde{K}(\mathbb{Z}G)}^{\mathrm{SW}_G} \swarrow^{\mathfrak{t}}$$

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commutes, where $SW_G : (\mathbb{Z}/|G|)^* \to \tilde{K}(\mathbb{Z}G)$ is the map which associates to each integer *r* relatively prime to |G| the projective ideal (r, Σ) of $\mathbb{Z}G$ generated by *r* and the norm element Σ . [9].

Furthermore if there exists a truncated finitely generated free resolution of length *d* and Euler characteristic *l*, then ker $t \simeq h^{d+1}(G, l)$. Hence if *TG* (resp. SW(G)) denotes the image (resp. kernel) of the map SW_G , it follows one has a commutative diagram

Since in all the known calculations $h^{d+1}(G, l)$ was a quotient of a sub-group of $(\mathbb{Z}/|G|)^*$, this seemed to indicate ker \overline{t} was always equal to zero. In this paper we give the following interpretation of ker \overline{t} . Suppose $0 \to M \to F_d \to \cdots \to F_0 \to \mathbb{Z} \to 0$ is an truncated finitely generated free resolution of \mathbb{Z} of length d and Euler characteristic l. Let $F_M = \{[M] - [N] \in \mathfrak{G}(M) \mid M \oplus \mathbb{Z}G \simeq N \oplus \mathbb{Z}G\}$ and let $\Gamma_M = \{[M] - [N] \in \mathfrak{G}(M) \mid \text{there exists a truncated finitely generated free resolution <math>\mathbb{F}_*$ of \mathbb{Z} of length d and Euler characteristic l with $H_d(\mathbb{F}_*) \simeq N$.

THEOREM. ker $\overline{t} = F_M = \Gamma_M$.

This allows us to use a result of Sieradski–Dyer [8] to show ker \bar{t} must in general be different from zero. A result of Ullam [12] can be used to show the same for SW(G)/det.

1. Notation and terminology. Let G be a finite group and $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}G$ its integral group ring. We will refer to a truncated finitely generated projective (free) resolution $\mathbb{P}_*(\mathbb{F}_*)$ of the trivial G module Z as a syzygy (free syzygy). When no confusion is possible we will write $H_d(\mathbb{P}_*)$ as M. We will work with syzygies of a fixed length $d \ge 1$. The Euler characteristic $\chi(\mathbb{P}_*)$ is

$$\frac{1}{|G|}\sum_{j=0}^{d}(-1)^{j}rk_{\mathbb{Z}}P_{d-j}\in\mathbb{Z}$$

and the Euler class

$$e(\mathbb{P}_{\ast}) = \sum_{j=0}^{d} (-1)^{j} [P_{d-j}] \in \tilde{K}_{0}(\Lambda).$$

Each syzygy $0 \to M \to \mathbb{P}_* \to \mathbb{Z} \to 0$ determines a canonical isomorphism $k_{\mathbb{P}} : \mathbb{Z}/|G| \to \operatorname{Ext}_{\Delta}^{d+1}(\mathbb{Z}, M)$ where $\operatorname{Ext}_{\Delta}^{d+1}(\mathbb{Z}, M)$ is computed with respect to the

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resolution $P_* \to \mathbb{Z}$, and the image of $[1] \in \mathbb{Z}/|G|$ is also denoted $k_{\mathbb{P}_*}$ and is the k-invariant of \mathbb{P}_* . It is shown in [6] that the map $\overline{t} : \mathfrak{G}(M) \to \tilde{K}(\mathbb{Z}G)/T(G)$ in (**) is given as follows: Let $[M] - [N] \in \mathfrak{G}(M)$. By Roiter's lemma we may embed $N \hookrightarrow M$ with cokernel X finite and of Z-annihilator relatively prime to |G|. If we projectively resolve X, i.e., if $0 \to Q \to P \to X \to 0$ is exact with P (and hence Q) finitely generated Λ -projective, then $\overline{t}([M] - [N]) = ([P] - [Q]) + TG \in \tilde{K}_0(\mathbb{Z}G)/TG$. Note also that since $\operatorname{ann}_{\mathbb{Z}} X$ is of order relatively prime to |G| and N, M are Λ -lattices, we have by the generalized Schanuel's lemma [13, V2.6; VII3.5] that $M \oplus Q \simeq N \oplus P$. Two syzygies P_* , $P'_{\mathscr{B}}$ are equivalent, i.e., equal in $\operatorname{cl}^{d+1}(G, l)$ if and only if they are chain homotopy equivalent (as complexes with two non zero homology groups) by a chain map inducing the identity on $\mathbb{Z} = H_0(\mathbb{P}_*) = H_*(\mathbb{P}_*)$. It is obvious by making elementary changes that \mathbb{P}_* is equivalent to a free syzygy if and only if $e(\mathbb{Z}_*) = 0$.

2. The results. The equality of ker \overline{t} and Γ_M is a consequence of the following proposition.

PROPOSITION 1. Suppose $0 \to M \to \mathbb{P}_* \to \mathbb{Z} \to 0$ is a syzygy. For all s with (s, |G|) = 1, there exists a syzygy $0 \to M \to \mathbb{P}'_* \to \mathbb{Z} \to 0$ such that

- (i) $k_{\mathbb{P}_*} = sk_{\mathbb{P}_*} \in \operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda}^{d+1}(\mathbb{Z}, M).$
- (ii) $e(\mathbb{P}'_{*}) = e(\mathbb{P}_{*}) + (-1)^{d+1}[(s, \Sigma)]$
- (iii) $\chi(\mathbb{P}'_{*}) = \chi(\mathbb{P}_{*}).$

Proof. Let \mathbb{P}''_{*} be the pushout of \mathbb{P}_{*} by the map $s: M \to M$. In [6] it is shown that one obtains $(-1)^{d+1}[(s, \Sigma)] \in \tilde{K}(\mathbb{Z}G)$ by projectively resolving M/sM. On the other hand from the above pushout and Schanuel's lemma this is $[P''_d]-[P_d]$ and hence $P''_d \oplus \Lambda \simeq P_d \oplus (s^{(-1)d+1}, \Sigma)$ by the Bass cancellation theorem. In \mathbb{P}''_{*} add Λ to P''_d and P''_{d-1} and then replace $P''_d \oplus \Lambda$ by $P_d \oplus (s^{(-1)d+1}, \Sigma)$ to obtain a syzygy P'_{*} and a map

Since $s: M \to M$ induces multiplication by s on $\operatorname{Ext}^{d+1}(\mathbb{Z}, M)$, $k_{\mathbb{P}'_*} = sk_{\mathbb{P}_*}$. Clearly $e(\mathbb{P}'_*) = e(\mathbb{P}_*) + (-1)^{d+1}(s, \Sigma)$ and $\chi(\mathbb{P}'_*) = \chi(\mathbb{P}'_*)$.

THEOREM. Suppose $0 \to M \to \mathbb{F}_* \to \mathbb{Z} \to 0$ is a free syzygy, then ker $\overline{t} = \Gamma_M$.

Proof. Let $[M] - [N] \in \ker \overline{t}$. Embed $h : M \hookrightarrow N$ by Roiter's lemma with cokernel *h* finite and annihilator relatively prime to |G|. Then $h_* \mathbb{P}_* : 0 \to N \to P'_d \to F_{d-1} \to \cdots \to F_0 \to \mathbb{Z} \to 0$ has Euler class $[P'_d] = [(r, \Sigma)]$ for some *r* with (r, |G|) = 1 by the generalized Schanuel lemma [13] since $\overline{t}([M] - [N]) = 0$. By

Proposition 1, there exists a syzygy $0 \to N \to \mathbb{P}_*'' \to \mathbb{Z} \to 0$ with Euler class $e[\mathbb{P}_*'] - [(r, \Sigma)] = 0$. Hence there exists a free syzygy \mathbb{F}_*' with $H_*(\mathbb{F}_*') = N$.

Let $[M]-[N]\in\Gamma_M$. i.e., suppose there exists a free syzygy $0 \to N \to \mathbb{F}'_* \to \mathbb{Z} \to 0$. Let $k' = k_{\mathbb{F}'_*}$ be the *k*-invariant. Embed $h: M \hookrightarrow N$ by Roiter's lemma and let $\mathbb{P}''_* = h_*\mathbb{F}_*$. As we have seen $\overline{t}([N]-[M]) = [P''_d] + TG$. Let $k'' = k_{\mathbb{P}_*}$ be the *k*-invariant. Then k'' = sk' for some *s* with (s, |G|) = 1. By Proposition 1 there exists a syzygy $0 \to N \to \mathbb{P}'_* \to \mathbb{Z} \to 0$ with $k_{\mathbb{P}'_*} = sk'$ and $e(\mathbb{P}'_*) = (-1)^{d+1}[(s, \Sigma)]$. Since \mathbb{P}'_* and \mathbb{P}''_* have the same *k*-invariant, there exists a chain map from \mathbb{P}'_* to \mathbb{P}''_* inducing the identity on H_0 and H_d . Hence $[P''_d] = e(\mathbb{P}''_*) = e(\mathbb{P}''_*) = (-1)^{d+1}[(s, \Sigma)]$, i.e. $\overline{t}([M]-[N]) = 0$.

The equality of Γ_M and F_M depends on the following result.

PROPOSITION 2. Suppose $0 \to M \xrightarrow{\alpha} D \xrightarrow{\alpha} E \to 0$ is an exact sequence of Λ lattices and $M \oplus X_{\widetilde{\beta}} N \oplus Y$ for some Λ -lattice N and some finitely generated Λ -projective Y. Then there exists an exact sequence $0 \to N \to D \oplus X \to E \oplus Y \to 0$ and a map

for some map $g: D \oplus X \to Y$.

Proof. Consider $0 \to M \oplus X \xrightarrow{\rho \oplus 1} D \oplus X \xrightarrow{(a,0)} E \to 0$. Replacing $M \oplus X$ by $N \oplus Y$ via β gives the following.

$$0 \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow D \xrightarrow{(\partial,0)} E \longrightarrow 0$$
$$\downarrow^{\beta\iota_1} \qquad \qquad \downarrow^{\iota_1} \qquad \qquad \parallel^{\iota} \\ 0 \longrightarrow N \oplus Y \xrightarrow{u} D \oplus X \xrightarrow{(\partial,0)} E \longrightarrow 0.$$

Consider the diagram

Since Y is Λ -projective, and all are Λ -lattices, the middle vertical sequence splits [9] with splitting maps $h: W \to D \oplus X$ and $g: D \oplus X \to Y$.

From the sequence $0 \to N^{(1,0)} \to W \oplus Y \xrightarrow{k \oplus 1} E \oplus Y \to 0$ and the isomorphism $(h, ul_2) : W \oplus Y \xrightarrow{\sim} D \oplus X$, one obtains the desired sequence $0 \to N \xrightarrow{h_1} D \oplus X \xrightarrow{(\partial, g)} E \oplus Y \to 0$. Moreover it is clear there are maps

COROLLARY 1. If $0 \to M \to \mathbb{P}_* \to \mathbb{Z} \to 0$ is a syzygy and $\beta : M \oplus P \simeq N \oplus Q$ is an isomorphism with P, Q Λ -projective; then there exists a syzygy $\mathbb{Q}: 0 \to N \to P_d \oplus P \to P_{d-1} \oplus Q \to \cdots \to P_0 \to \mathbb{Z} \to 0$ and a chain map $f: \mathbb{P}_* \to \mathbb{Q}_*$ inducing Id on H_0 and $p_1\beta\iota_1$ on H_d .

Remark. It is obvious that $e(\mathbb{Q}_*) = e(\mathbb{P}_*) + [P] - [Q]$ and that if M and N have the same \mathbb{Z} -rank, for example are in the same genus, then $\chi(\mathbb{P}_*) = \chi(\mathbb{Q}_*)$.

COROLLARY 2. If $0 \to M \to \mathbb{F}_* \to \mathbb{Z} \to 0$ is a free syzygy, then $\Gamma_M = F_m$.

Proof. From Schanuel's lemma and the Bass cancellation theorem it is obvious that $\Gamma_M \subseteq F'_M$. The converse is an immediate consequence of Corollary 1 and the remarks following.

In [8] Sieradaki and Dyer prove the following theorem. Let G be a finite abelian group with torsion coefficients $t_1 | \cdots | t_n$.

THEOREM. If $0 \to M \to F_2 \to F_1 \to F_0 \to \mathbb{Z} \to 0$ is a free syzygy of length 2. and minimal Euler characteristic $=1+\binom{n}{2}$, then there exists an epimorphism $B: \Gamma_M \to (\mathbb{Z}/t_1)^*/\pm (\mathbb{Z}/t_1)^*)^{\binom{n}{2}} = \sum_{t_1}^{\binom{n}{2}}$.

It is easily seen that this group is in general non-zero. For example if $t_1 = p$ prime then it is easy to see $\sum_{p=1}^{s}$ is cyclic of order s if $p \equiv 1 \mod 2s$. W. Browning [1], based on work of Metzler [4] and Sieradski [7], has shown that for G finite abelian with torsion coefficients $t_1 | \cdots | t_n$, $h^3(G, 1 + \binom{n}{2}) \approx (\mathbb{Z}/t_1)^*/(\pm 1)$. Hence if we consider the elementary abelian group $\mathbb{Z}/7 \times \mathbb{Z}/7 \times \mathbb{Z}/7$ it follows from the above considerations of $\sum_{p=1}^{s}$ that the map det : $K_1(\text{End } M) \to SW(G)$ in (* *) must be onto.

Ullam [12], see also Taylor [10], has shown that for an elementary abelian

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group of rank k the map $SW_G : (\mathbb{Z}/p^k)^* \to TG$ restricted to the subgroup generated by (1+p) is an isomorphism, hence $SW(G) \cap (1+p) = 1$. However the following result shows that for only two torsion coefficients the image of the determinant map is equal to $(-1) \subset SW(G)$.

PROPOSITION 3. Let $G = \mathbb{Z}/t_1 \times \mathbb{Z}/t_2$, $t_1 | t_2$ and suppose $0 \to M \to \mathbb{F}_* \to \mathbb{Z} \to 0$ is the free syzygy of length 2 based on the standard presentation of G. If $h: M^k \to M^k$ is an automorphism, then det $h \equiv \pm 1 \mod t_1$.

Proof. It is easy to see there exists an exact sequence $0 \to \mathbb{Z} \to M \to IG^2 \to 0$ where $\mathbb{Z} \approx M^G$ and IG is the augmentation ideal of G. Since $H^2(G, IG) = 0$, $H^3(G, IG) \approx H^2(G, \mathbb{Z}) \approx G$, $H^3(G, \mathbb{Z}) \approx \mathbb{Z}/t_1$, $H^3(G, M) \approx \mathbb{Z}/|G|$, and $H^4(G, M) = 0$ the exact cohomology sequence reduces to

$$0 \to \mathbb{Z}/t_1 \xrightarrow{i} \mathbb{Z}/|G| \to H^2(G, \mathbb{Z})^2 \to H^4(G, \mathbb{Z}) \to 0$$

We may choose generators u of \mathbb{Z}/t_1 and v of $\mathbb{Z}/|G|$ so that $j(u) = t_2 v$ since there is only one subgroup of $\mathbb{Z}|G|$ of order t_1 . If $g: M^k \to M^k$ is an automorphism then h induces an automorphism $h^G: (M^G)^k \to (M^G)^k$ and hence a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{c} 0 \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}/t_1)^k \xrightarrow{i} (\mathbb{Z}/|G|)^k \rightarrow H^2(G, \mathbb{Z})^{2k} \rightarrow H^4(G, \mathbb{Z})^k \rightarrow 0 \\ \downarrow^{h_*^G} \qquad \downarrow^{h_*} \qquad \downarrow \qquad \downarrow \\ 0 \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}/t_1)^k \xrightarrow{i} (\mathbb{Z}/|G|)^k \rightarrow H^2(G, \mathbb{Z})^{2k} \rightarrow H^4(G, \mathbb{Z})^k \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

Since $M^G \approx \mathbb{Z}$, det $h^G = \pm 1$ and hence det $h^G_* \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{t_1}$. If (b_{ij}) is the matrix representing h^G_* with respect to the basis u_1, \ldots, u_k of $(\mathbb{Z}/t_1)^k$ in $GL_k(\mathbb{Z}/t_1)$ and (a_{ij}) that representing h_* with respect to the basis v_1, \ldots, v_k of $(\mathbb{Z}/|G|)^k$ in $GL_k(\mathbb{Z}/|G|)$ then since $j(u_i) = t_2 v_i$ it is easy to see from the above diagram that $t_2 a_{ij} \equiv t_2 b_{ij} \mod{t_1}$, i.e. $a_{ij} \equiv b_{ij} \mod{t_1}$. But this surely implies det $h_* \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{t_1}$.

Let $G = \mathbb{Z}/P \times \mathbb{Z}/P$. From the above result we have im $(\det) = \pm 1$. The work of Ullam and Taylor shows $(1+p) \cap SW(G) = 1$ and hence reduction mod pdefines an isomorphism of SW(G) with $(\mathbb{Z}/p)^*$ since (1+p) is the kernel of the reduction map. Therefore $SW(G)/\det(K_1) \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/p)^*/\pm 1$. Since Browning's result says $h^3(G, 2) \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/p)^*/\pm 1$ we must have $\Gamma_M = 0$. Hence for an elementary pgroup of rank 2, all of $h^3(G, l)$ arises from the Swan subgroup of $(\mathbb{Z}/|G|)^*$, while for rank 3 (at least for p = 7) it arises entirely from Γ_M . This discussion shows that even in the finite abelian case where $h^3(G, 1+\binom{n}{2})$ is known, the image of the determinant map is somewhat of a mystery.

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