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COHOMOLOGY OF CONFIGURATION SPACES OF  
COMPLEX PROJECTIVE SPACES

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*Abstract.* In this paper we compute topological invariants for some configuration spaces of complex projective spaces. We shall describe Sullivan models for these configuration spaces.

*Keywords:* configuration spaces, cohomological algebra, complex projective spaces

*MSC 2010:* 57N65, 55T10

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $X$  be a connected space. The topology of *ordered configuration spaces*:

$$F(X; n) = \{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in X^n \mid x_i \neq x_j; i \neq j\},$$

of  $n$  distinct labeled points in  $X$  has attracted considerable attention over the years. The cohomology rings  $H^*(F(\mathbb{R}^2; n))$  have been described by Arnold [1]. In his 1972 thesis F. Cohen extended Arnold's computations to all Euclidean spaces; see [4]. For  $X$  an  $m$ -dimensional real oriented manifold, the Leray spectral sequence of the inclusion  $F(X; n) \hookrightarrow X^n$  has been described by Cohen-Taylor [5] and further analyzed by Totaro [9]. With coefficient field  $\mathbb{K}$ , the above Cohen-Taylor spectral sequence converges multiplicatively to  $H^*(F(X; n), \mathbb{K})$ ; it has the property  $E_2 = E_m$ ; and the differential graded algebra  $(E_m, d_m)$  depends only on  $n$  and the cohomology algebra  $H^*(X; \mathbb{K})$ . Configuration spaces  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  and  $S^{n+1}$  are mostly studied in the literature, particularly the case of  $n = 1$  is in connection with classical braid theory, see [2].

Our aim in this paper is to find the Betti numbers and cohomology algebras of *configuration spaces of complex projective spaces*  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m$  and those of *punctured complex projective spaces*  $\mathring{\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m} = \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m \setminus \{pt\}$ .

Given  $X$ , a topological space with finite Betti numbers  $\beta_i(X)$ , we denote its Poincaré series by

$$P_X(t) = \sum_{i \geq 0} \beta_i(X) t^i.$$

In all computations of cohomology algebras we will use complex coefficients:  $H^*(X) = H^*(X; \mathbb{C})$ .

In our proofs the basic tools are the Kriz model [8] for the configuration spaces of an algebraic projective manifold and also the punctured model for these spaces [3]. In Section 2 we give a short presentation of these models. We shall compute Poincaré polynomials for configuration spaces with  $< 5$  points and also describe their cohomology algebras.

**Theorem 1.** *The Poincaré polynomial of the configuration space  $F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m; 2)$  is given by a product of cyclotomic polynomials:*

$$P_{F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m; 2)}(t) = \prod_{\substack{d|m(m+1) \\ d \neq 1}} \varphi_d(t^2).$$

**Theorem 2.** *The multiplicative structure of the cohomological algebra of the configuration space  $F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m; 2)$  is given by*

$$H^*_{(F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m; 2))} \cong \frac{\mathbb{C}[a_1, a_2]}{\langle a_1^m + a_1^{m-1}a_2 + \dots + a_2^m ; a_1^{m+1}; a_2^{m+1} \rangle},$$

where  $\deg a_1 = \deg a_2 = 2$ .

**Proposition 1.** *The multiplicative structure of cohomological algebra of the configuration space  $F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m, 1)$  is given by*

$$H^*(F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m, 1)) \cong \frac{\mathbb{C}\langle x, z \rangle}{\langle x^m, xz \rangle},$$

where  $\deg x = 2$  and  $\deg z = 2m - 1$ .

**Proposition 2.** *The multiplicative structure of the cohomological algebra of the configuration space  $F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m, 2)$  is given by*

$$H^*(F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m, 2)) \cong \frac{\mathbb{C}\langle y, z, w \rangle}{\langle y^m, z^m, y^{m-1}z + \dots + yz^{m-1}, yw, zw \rangle},$$

where  $\deg y = \deg z = 2$ ,  $\deg w = 4m - 3$ .

**Theorem 3.** If  $m \leq 4$  the Poincaré polynomial of the configuration space  $F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m; 3)$  is given by

$$P_{F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m; 3)}(t) = (1 + t^2 + t^4 + \dots + t^{2m-2})[(1 + t^2 + t^4 + \dots + t^{2m-2})^2 + t^{4m-1}].$$

**Theorem 4.** If  $m \leq 4$  the multiplicative structure of the cohomological algebra of the configuration spaces  $F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m; 3)$  is given by

$$H^*(F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m; 3)) \cong \frac{\mathbb{C} \langle a, b_1, b_2, \eta \rangle}{\left\langle \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} b_1^{m-i} b_2^i, a^{m+1}, b_1^m, b_2^m, a^m \eta, b_1 \eta, b_2 \eta \right\rangle},$$

where  $\deg a = 2$ , and  $\deg b_i = 2$ ,  $i \in \{1, 2\}$  and  $\deg \eta = 4m - 1$ .

During the proofs we will describe completely the structure of the Serre spectral sequences of the natural fibrations associated to these spaces.

## 2. SULLIVAN MODELS FOR ALGEBRAIC CONFIGURATION SPACES

In this section we present two models for configuration spaces of algebraic projective manifolds. The first model was introduced by Fulton-MacPherson [7] and next a simplified version was given by Kriz [8].

Let  $M$  be a closed orientable manifold of dimension  $m$  with a fixed orientation class  $\omega \in H^m(M)$ . For an arbitrary homogenous basis  $\{a_i\}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, q$ , in  $H^*(M)$ , take the dual basis  $\{b_j\}_{j=1,2,\dots,q}$ , ( $a_i \cup b_j = \delta_{ij}\omega$ ) and construct the *diagonal class* of  $(M; \omega)$  by  $\Delta = \sum_{i=0}^q a_i \otimes b_i \in H^*(M^2)$ .

For  $a \neq b \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$  let  $p_a^*: H^*(M) \rightarrow H^*(M^n)$  and  $p_{ab}^*: H^*(M^2) \rightarrow H^*(M^n)$  be the pullbacks of the projections maps

$$p_a: M^n \rightarrow M, \quad p_a(x_1, \dots, x_a, \dots, x_n) = x_a,$$

and

$$p_{ab}: M^n \rightarrow M^2, \quad p_{ab}(x_1, \dots, x_a, \dots, x_b, \dots, x_n) = (x_a, x_b),$$

respectively.

**Definition 1** [8]. Let  $H^*$  be a Poincaré duality algebra of dimension  $2m$  and  $\omega$  a fixed orientation class. Denote by  $H^{*\otimes n}[G_{ab}]$  the algebra over  $H^{\otimes n}$  with degree  $2m - 1$  exterior generators  $G_{ab}$ ,  $1 \leq a \neq b \leq n$ . The Kriz model  $E_n^*(H^*; \omega, d)$  is the

differential graded algebra (DGA) given by the quotient of  $H^{*\otimes n}[G_{ab}]$  modulo the following relations:

1.  $G_{ab} = G_{ba}$ ,
2.  $p_a^*(x)G_{ab} = p_b^*(x)G_{ab}$ , for  $x \in H^*$ ;
3.  $G_{ab}G_{bc} + G_{bc}G_{ca} + G_{ca}G_{ab} = 0$ .

The differential  $d$  of degree  $+1$  is given by

$$d(p_a^*(x)) = 0$$

and

$$d(G_{ab}) = p_{ab}^*(\Delta).$$

Simplifying the model of Fulton-Macpherson, Kriz proved:

**Theorem 5** [8]. *Let  $X$  be a complex projective manifold of dimension  $m$  with cohomology algebra  $H = H^*(X; \mathbb{Q})$ . Then the DGA  $(E_n^*(H); d)$  is a rational model, in the sense of Sullivan, of the configuration space  $F(X; n)$ .*

Let  $H$  be an even-dimensional Poincaré duality algebra, as before. We are going to consider another associated DGA, to be denoted by  $E_n(\overset{\circ}{H})$ . To begin with, let  $\overset{\circ}{H}$  be the quotient algebra,  $\overset{\circ}{H} = H/\mathbb{C}\omega$ , with multiplication induced from  $H$ . Note that, when  $H = H^*(M; \mathbb{C})$ , with  $M$  a closed oriented manifold,  $\overset{\circ}{H}$  is nothing else but the cohomology algebra of the non-compact punctured manifold  $\overset{\circ}{M} = M \setminus \{pt\}$ . Denote by  $\overset{\circ}{\Delta}$  the image of  $\Delta$  in  $\overset{\circ}{H}^{\otimes 2}$  and consider the induced differential  $d: \overset{\circ}{H} \rightarrow \overset{\circ}{H}$ .

**Definition 2** [3]. The punctured Kriz-model is the differential graded algebra  $E_n(\overset{\circ}{H}) = E_n^*(\overset{\circ}{H}, \overset{\circ}{\Delta})$ , with the induced differential  $d$ .

**Theorem 6** [3]. *Let  $X$  be a 1-connected complex projective manifold of dimension  $m$  with cohomology algebra  $H = H^*(X; \mathbb{C})$ . Then the DGA  $(E_n^*(\overset{\circ}{H}); d)$  is a complex model, in the sense of Sullivan, of the configuration space  $F(\overset{\circ}{X}; n)$ .*

We use the standard notation  $E_n^d$  for the homogenous part of total degree  $d$  and  $E_n^*[k]$  for the homogenous component of degree  $k$  in the exterior generators  $G_{ab}$ ; for instance,  $E_n[0] = H^{\otimes n}$  and  $G_{ab} \in E_n^{2m-1}[1]$ .

### 3. TWO POINTS CONFIGURATION SPACES

Let  $X = \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m$  and let  $E^*(n; m)$  be the Kriz model  $(E_n(H^*(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m); x^m))$  where  $x$  is a fixed generator of  $H^2(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m)$  and  $x^m$  is the orientation class. The cohomology algebra of  $X$  is given by  $H^*(X) = \mathbb{C}[x]/\langle x^{m+1} \rangle$  with  $\deg x = 2$ ; i.e.  $H^{2i}(X; \mathbb{C})$  has  $x^i$  as a basis ( $0 \leq i \leq m$ ) and all other cohomology groups are zero.

First we construct the Kriz model  $E(2; m)$ . Using Künneth formula we find the canonical basis of  $H^{2i}(X^2)$ :  $x^i \otimes 1, x^{i-1} \otimes x, \dots, 1 \otimes x^i$ . Now we add the exterior part:  $(x^i \otimes 1)G_{12} = (1 \otimes x^i)G_{12}$  ( $i = 1, \dots, m$ ), where the degree of  $G_{12}$  is  $2m - 1$ . The differential is given by:

$$d(G_{12}) = p_{12}^*(\Delta) = x^m \otimes 1 + x^{m-1} \otimes x + \dots + 1 \otimes x^m.$$

**Proof of Theorem 1.** Now we will calculate the cohomology of  $(E(2; m), d)$ . It is obvious that if  $0 \leq k \leq m - 1$ ,  $H^k(F(X; 2)) \cong E^k$  hence  $\beta_{2k-1} = 0$  and  $\beta_{2k} = k + 1$ . In higher degrees the sequence of differentials is given by

$$\begin{aligned} E^{2m+2k-1} &\xrightarrow{d} E^{2m+2k} \xrightarrow{d} 0, \\ d((x^k \otimes 1)G_{12}) &= x^m \otimes x^k + x^{m-1} \otimes x^{k+1} + \dots + x^k \otimes x^m, \end{aligned}$$

so the first  $d$  is injective. As  $\dim E^{2m+2k-1} = 1$ , the even Betti numbers are  $\beta_{2m+2k} = \dim E^{2m+2k} - 1 = (m - k + 1) - 1 = (m - k)$ , and  $\beta_{2m+2k-1} = 0$ .

So the Poincaré polynomial is

$$\begin{aligned} P_{F(X;2)}(t) &= 1 + 2t^2 + \dots + mt^{2(m-1)} + mt^{2m} + (m-1)t^{2m+2} + \dots + t^{2(2m-1)} \\ &= (1 + t^2 + \dots + t^{2(m-1)})(1 + t^2 + \dots + t^{2(m-1)} + t^{2m}). \end{aligned}$$

We denote by  $\varphi_n(t)$  be the  $n$ th cyclotomic polynomial:

$$\varphi_n(t) = \prod_{1 \leq i \leq n, (i,n)=1} (t - \alpha^i),$$

where  $\alpha$  is a primitive root of  $t^n - 1$ . We have, for every positive integer  $n$ ,

$$t^n - 1 = \prod_{d|n} \varphi_d(t);$$

hence the Poincaré polynomial can be decomposed into irreducible factors in  $\mathbb{Z}[t]$  as

$$P_{F(X;2)}(t) = \prod_{\substack{d|m(m+1) \\ d \neq 1}} \varphi_d(t^2).$$

□

**Proof of Theorem 2.** Introducing the cohomology classes  $a_1 = [x \otimes 1]$  and  $a_2 = [1 \otimes x]$  we have  $[x^i \otimes x^j] = [x^i \otimes 1][1 \otimes x^j] = a_1^i a_2^j$ , therefore  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  are generators of  $H^*(E(2); d)$ . Then we have to prove that  $a_k^{m+1} = 0$  and  $a_k^m \neq 0$ , where  $k = 1, 2$ . The first one is clear because  $x^{m+1} \otimes 1 = 0$  and so  $[x^{m+1} \otimes 1] = 0$ . But  $x^m \neq 0$  because  $d(\lambda G_{12}) \neq x^m \otimes 1$  where  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  and so  $[x^m \otimes 1] \neq 0$ . The equation  $d(G_{12}) = x^m \otimes 1 + x^{m-1} \otimes x + \dots + 1 \otimes x^m$  implies  $[x^m \otimes 1 + x^{m-1} \otimes x + \dots + 1 \otimes x^m] = 0$ . So we obtain a relation  $a_1^m + a_1^{m-1} a_2 + a_1^{m-2} a_2^2 + \dots + a_2^m = 0$  and

$$H^*(F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m; 2)) \cong \frac{\mathbb{C}[a_1, a_2]}{\langle a_1^m + a_1^{m-1} a_2 + \dots + a_2^m; a_1^{m+1}; a_2^{m+1} \rangle},$$

where  $\deg a_1 = a_2 = 2$ . □

#### 4. THREE POINTS CONFIGURATION SPACES

In our approach to compute  $H^*(F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m))$  we use two different fibrations, their associated spectral sequences, and comparing the possible results we shall use Kriz model in a unique dimension in order to remove the indeterminacy.

**Proof of Proposition 1.** Using the Mayer-Vietoris sequence for  $X = \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m \setminus \{z_1\}$ ,  $Y = \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m \setminus \{z_2\}$  and  $X \cap Y = \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m \setminus \{z_1, z_2\}$ , we obtain the Betti numbers of  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m$ . Using the functoriality properties of the cup product we obtain the multiplicative structure of the cohomology algebra of  $H^*(F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m, 1))$ . It is given by:

$$H^*(F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m, 1)) \cong \frac{\mathbb{C}\langle x, z \rangle}{\langle x^m, xz \rangle},$$

where  $\deg x = 2$  and  $\deg z = 2m - 1$ . □

**Proof of Proposition 2.** In order to compute the cohomology algebra of  $F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m, 2)$  the differential of the punctured Kriz model is given by:

$$d(G) = x^{m-1} \otimes x + x^{m-2} \otimes x^2 + \dots + x \otimes x^{m-1}.$$

The non-zero Betti numbers are:  $\beta_0 = 1$ ,  $\beta_{2m} = m - 2$ ,  $\beta_{4m-3} = 1$ , and the cohomology algebra of the punctured model is generated by  $y = [x \otimes 1]$ ,  $z = [1 \otimes x]$ ,  $w = [(x^{m-1} \otimes 1)G]$  and has the presentation:

$$H^*(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m; 2) = \frac{\mathbb{C}\langle y, z, w \rangle}{\langle y^m, z^m, y^{m-1}z + \dots + yz^{m-1}, yw, zw \rangle}$$

where  $\deg y = z = 2$  and  $\deg w = 4m - 3$ . □

Proof of Theorem 3. For  $m = 1, 2$  we obtain easily the results [1]:

$$P_{F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^1;3)}(t) = 1 + t^3,$$

$$P_{F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2;3)}(t) = (1 + t^2)[(1 + t^2)^2 + t^7].$$

For  $m \geq 3$  the direct computations in the Kriz model are too complicated. So we use the Leray-Serre spectral sequences for two fibrations; the first one is:

$$[2 - 3 - 1]^3: F(\overset{\circ}{\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3}, 2) \xrightarrow{i} F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3; 3) \xrightarrow{pr_1} F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3; 1).$$

Here  $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3) = 1$ . By Proposition 2 the cohomology algebra of  $F(\overset{\circ}{\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3}, 2)$  is generated by  $y = [x \otimes 1]$ ,  $z = [1 \otimes x]$ ,  $w = [(x^2 \otimes 1)G_{12}]$  and presented by:

$$H^*(F(\overset{\circ}{\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3}, 2)) = \frac{\mathbb{C}\langle y, z, w \rangle}{\langle y^3, z^3, y^2z + yz^2, yw, zw \rangle}$$

and  $\deg y = z = 2$ ,  $\deg w = 9$ .

Firstly we compute the Serre spectral sequence of this fibration. In the range  $q \leq 6$  everything is concentrated in even degrees hence all the differentials are zero. It is obvious that  $E_2 = E_3 = E_4$ . For  $d_4(w)$  we have two possibilities,  $d_4(w) = 0$  or  $d_4(w) \neq 0$ :

Case 1: if  $d_4(w) \neq 0$  the spectral sequence collapses at  $E_5$ , so the Poincaré polynomial is given by:

$$P_1(t) = 1 + 3t^2 + 6t^4 + 7t^6 + 6t^8 + 3t^{10} + t^{13} + t^{15}.$$

Case 2: if  $d_4(w) = 0$  then we have two subcases  $d_6(w) = 0$  or  $d_6(w) \neq 0$ .

Case 2.1: If  $d_4(w) = 0$  and  $d_6(w) \neq 0$  the spectral sequence collapses at  $E_7$  and the Poincaré polynomial is given by:

$$P_2(t) = 1 + 3t^2 + 6t^4 + 7t^6 + 6t^8 + 3t^{10} + t^{11} + t^{12} + t^{13} + t^{15}.$$

Case 2.2: If  $d_4(w) = 0$  and  $d_6(w) = 0$  the spectral sequence collapses at  $E_2$  (see Figs. 1 and 2) and the Poincaré polynomial is given by:

$$P_3(t) = (1 + t^2 + t^4 + t^6)(1 + 2t^2 + 3t^4 + t^6 + t^9)$$

$$= 1 + 3t^2 + 6t^4 + 7t^6 + 6t^8 + t^9 + 4t^{10} + t^{11} + t^{12} + t^{13} + t^{15}.$$

Next we will calculate the Poincaré polynomial of  $F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3; 3)$  by using the second fibration:

$$[1 - 3 - 2]^3: F(\overset{\circ\circ}{\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3}; 1) \xrightarrow{i} F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3; 3) \xrightarrow{pr_{12}} F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3; 2)$$



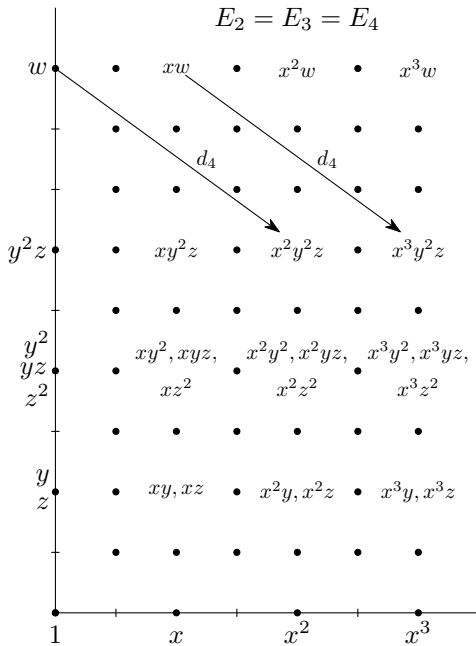


Fig. 1

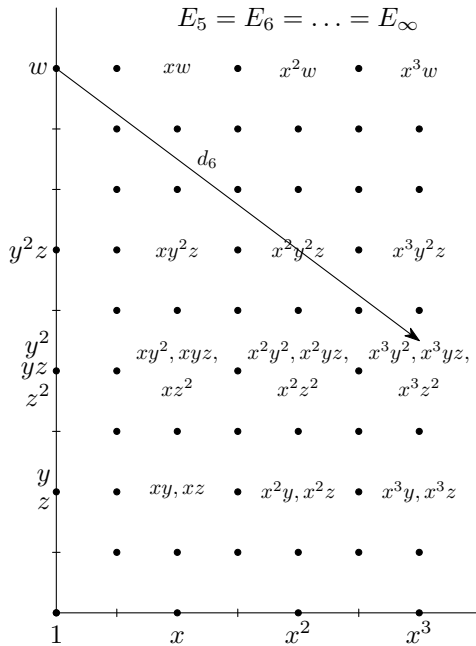


Fig. 2

where  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3 = F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3 \setminus \{z_1, z_2\})$ . The cohomology of the fiber space can be calculated by using Proposition 1 and the cohomology algebra is given by:  $H^*(F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3); 1) = \mathbb{C}\langle x, z \rangle / \langle x^3, xz \rangle$ ; where  $\deg x = 2$ ,  $z = 5$ . For the differential  $d_2(z)$  there are two possibilities:  $d_2(z) = 0$  or  $d_2(z) \neq 0$

Case 1.1: if  $d_2(z) \neq 0$  and  $d_4(w_1) = 0$ , the sequence collapses at  $E_3$  and the Poincaré polynomial is given by:

$$Q_1(t) = 1 + 3t^2 + 6t^4 + 7t^6 + 6t^8 + 3t^{10} + t^{11} + t^{12} + t^{13} + t^{15}.$$

Case 1.2: if  $d_2(z) \neq 0$  and  $d_4(w_1) \neq 0$  the sequence collapses at  $E_5$  and the Poincaré polynomial is given by:

$$Q_2(t) = 1 + 3t^2 + 6t^4 + 7t^6 + 6t^8 + 3t^{10} + t^{13} + t^{15}.$$

Case 2.1: if  $d_2(z) = 0$  and  $d_4(z) \neq 0$ ,  $d_6(y_1) = 0$  the sequence collapses at  $E_5$  and the Poincaré polynomial is given by:

$$Q_3(t) = 1 + 3t^2 + 6t^4 + 7t^6 + 6t^8 + 4t^{10} + 2t^{11} + 2t^{13} + t^{14} + t^{15}.$$

Case 2.2: if  $d_2(z) = 0$  and  $d_4(z) \neq 0$  and  $d_6(y_1) \neq 0$  the sequence collapses at  $E_7$ , so the Poincaré polynomial is given by:

$$Q_4(t) = 1 + 3t^2 + 6t^4 + 7t^6 + 6t^8 + 3t^{10} + 2t^{11} + 2t^{12} + 2t^{13} + t^{14} + t^{15}.$$

Case 2.3: if  $d_2(z) = d_4(z) = 0$  but  $d_6(z) \neq 0$  the sequence collapses at  $E_7$ , so the Poincaré polynomial is given by:

$$Q_5(t) = 1 + 3t^2 + 6t^4 + 7t^6 + 6t^8 + 2t^9 + 5t^{10} + 3t^{11} + 3t^{12} + 2t^{13} + t^{14} + t^{15}.$$

Case 2.4: when  $d_2(z) = d_4(z) = d_6(z) = 0$  the sequence collapses at  $E_2$ , the Poincaré polynomial is given by:

$$Q_6(t) = (1 + t^2 + t^4 + t^5)(1 + 2t^2 + 3t^4 + 3t^6 + 2t^8 + t^{10}).$$

One can see that between two sets of Poincaré polynomials there are only two matches,  $P_1(t) = Q_2(t)$  and  $P_2(t) = Q_1(t)$ . Looking at the Kriz model in dimension 11 we have to decide whether  $\beta_{11}$  is 0 or 1. The differential

$$d: E^{11}[1] \longrightarrow E^{12}[0]$$

has a matrix representation:  $A = \begin{pmatrix} I_3 & * & * & * \\ 0 & I_3 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & B & C \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

and  $C = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . So the rank of  $A$  is 9 therefore  $H^{11}(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3; 3) \neq 0$  and the

Poincaré polynomial of  $F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3; 3)$  is

$$P(t) = 1 + 3t^2 + 6t^4 + 7t^6 + 6t^8 + 3t^{10} + t^{11} + t^{12} + t^{13} + t^{15},$$

$$P(t) = (1 + t^2 + t^4)[(1 + t^2 + t^4)^2 + t^{11}].$$

□

**Corollary 1.** *In the Leray- Serre spectral sequence of the first fibration*

$$[2 - 3 - 1]^3: F(\mathring{\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3}; 2) \xrightarrow{i} F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3, 3) \xrightarrow{pr_1} F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3; 1)$$

$d_4(w) = d_5(w) = 0$  but  $d_6(w) \neq 0$ . Thus the spectral sequence start with  $E_2 = E_3 = \dots = E_6$  and collapses at  $E_7$ .

**Corollary 2.** *In the Leray- Serre spectral sequence of the second fibration*

$$[1 - 3 - 2]^3: F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3; 1) \xrightarrow{i} F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3; 3) \xrightarrow{pr_{12}} F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3; 2)$$

$d_2(z) \neq 0$  and  $d_4(w_1) = 0$ . Thus the spectral sequence collapses at  $E_3$ .

For  $m = 4$ , with the same method, we use the Leray-Serre spectral sequences of the fibrations

$$[2 - 3 - 1]^4: F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^4; 2) \xrightarrow{i} F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^4; 3) \xrightarrow{pr_1} F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^4; 1)$$

and

$$[1 - 3 - 2]^4: F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^4; 1) \xrightarrow{i} F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^4; 3) \xrightarrow{pr_{12}} F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^4; 2).$$

Here  $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^4) = 1$ . By looking at all possible cases we have only three matches and these have different  $\beta_{15}$ . The Kriz model in dimension 15 has the differential

$$d: E^{15}[1] \longrightarrow E^{16}[0]$$

given by a matrix representation:  $A = \begin{pmatrix} I_3 & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & I_3 & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & B \\ 0 & 0 & C & I_3 & I_3 \\ 0 & 0 & I_3 & C & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $B =$

$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $C = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . So the rank of  $A$  is 12, therefore  $H^{15}(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^4; 3 \neq 0$  and the Poincaré polynomial of  $F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^4; 3)$  is

$$\begin{aligned} P(t) &= 1 + 3t^2 + 6t^4 + 10t^6 + 12t^8 + 12t^{10} + 10t^{12} \\ &\quad + 6t^{14} + t^{15} + 3t^{16} + t^{17} + t^{18} + t^{19} + t^{21}. \\ P(t) &= (1 + t^2 + t^4 + t^6)[(1 + t^2 + t^4 + t^6)^2 + t^{15}]. \end{aligned}$$

**Proof of Theorem 4.** We give complete details of the proof for the case  $m = 3$ . Introduce  $a = [x]$ ,  $b_1 = [y]$  and  $b_2 = [z]$ , generators of degree 2. Also take  $\eta = [xw]$ , as an exterior generator of degree 11. In the cohomology of the basis  $x^4 = 0$ , hence  $a^4 = 0$ ; and  $a^3 \neq 0$  because no differential is pointing towards  $x^3$ . It is also clear that  $b_i^3 = 0$ ,  $i = 1, 2$  and  $b_i^2 \neq 0$  because all the incident differentials are zero. From degree

reason, we find  $\eta^2 = 0$ ,  $b_i\eta = 0$  if  $i = 1, 3$ . Because  $[x^k w] = [x^{k-1}][xw]$  ( $k = 1, 2, 3$ ), we find  $a^k\eta \neq 0$ , if  $k = 1, 2$ , and  $a^3\eta = 0$ .

$$H^*(F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3; 3)) \cong \frac{\mathbb{C} \langle a, b_1, b_2, \eta \rangle}{\langle b_1 b_2^2 + b_1^2 b_2, a^3, b_1^3, b_2^3, a^3\eta, b_1\eta, b_2\eta \rangle}$$

where  $\deg a = 2$ ,  $\deg b_i = 2$ ,  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ , and  $\deg \eta = 11$ .

Similarly we can prove the case  $m = 4$ . □

Our computations suggest the following conjectures:

**Conjecture 1.** *The Poincaré polynomial of the configuration space  $F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m; 3)$  is given by*

$$P_{F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m; 3)}(t) = (1 + t^2 + t^4 + \dots + t^{2m-2})[(1 + t^2 + t^4 + \dots + t^{2m-2})^2 + t^{4m-1}].$$

**Conjecture 2.** *The multiplicative structure of the cohomological algebra of the configuration spaces  $F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m; 3)$  is given by*

$$H^*(F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m; 3)) \cong \frac{\mathbb{C} \langle a, b_1, b_2, \eta \rangle}{\left\langle \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} b_1^{m-i} b_2^i, a^{m+1}, b_1^m, b_2^m, a^m\eta, b_1\eta, b_2\eta \right\rangle},$$

where  $\deg a = 2$ ,  $\deg b_i = 2$ ,  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ , and  $\deg \eta = 4m - 1$ .

**Conjecture 3.** *In the Leray-Serre spectral sequence of the first fibration*

$$[2 - 3 - 1]^3: F(\mathring{\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m}; 2) \xrightarrow{i} F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m; 3) \xrightarrow{pr_1} F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m; 1)$$

$d_4(w) = d_6(w) = \dots = d_{2m-2}(w) = 0$  but  $d_{2m}(w) \neq 0$ . Thus the spectral sequence start with  $E_2 = E_3 = \dots = E_{2m}$  and collapses at  $E_{2m+1}$ .

**Conjecture 4.** *In the Leray-Serre spectral sequence of the second fibration*

$$[1 - 3 - 2]^3: F(\mathring{\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m}; 1) \xrightarrow{i} F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m; 3) \xrightarrow{pr_{12}} F(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^m; 2)$$

$d_2(z) \neq 0$  and  $d_4(w_1) = d_5(w_1) = d_6(w_1) = \dots = d_{2m-2}(w_1) = 0$ . Thus the spectral sequence collapses at  $E_3$ .

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