

Cohomology of compact connected Lie groups with Rank ≤ 3

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Abstract

In this paper we will use spectral sequences to deduce the de Rham cohomology of Lie groups with rank ≤ 3 .

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1 Introduction

A theorem due to Hopf states that for suitable¹ H-spaces X , its cohomology ring over fields F of characteristic 0 is the tensor product of exterior algebras and polynomial rings. In particular, for a compact connected Lie group G , this implies that $H^*(G; \mathbb{R})$ is an exterior algebra with odd-degree generators. It is also known that for a compact connected Lie group G with maximal torus T , Weyl group W , $H^*(G) \cong [H^*(T) \otimes H^*(G/T)]^W$, the W -invariants of $H^*(T) \otimes H^*(G/T)$ under an action of W . In this paper, we will use the Serre spectral sequence to show this result for compact connected Lie groups of rank ≤ 3 . We make no claim of originality in this paper.

Notation and conventions G is a compact and connected Lie group, T is its maximal torus, and W is the Weyl group of G . $l = \dim(T)$ and $v = \frac{1}{2} \dim(G/T)$. All cohomology below will be taken with real coefficients unless otherwise stated. e denotes the identity element of a group.

2 Preliminaries

We will give a brief overview of the preliminaries. For more details see [1].

Proposition 2.1. *W is finite.*

¹Suitable here means that X is path-connected and the cohomology spaces $H^n(X; F)$ are finite-dimensional

Proof. Let $N(T)$ be the normaliser of T in G . We have a homomorphism $N(T) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(T)$ given by conjugation. Let C be the connected component of $N(T)$ containing T . Since $\text{Aut}(T) \cong GL(l, \mathbb{Z})$ which is discrete, the image of C must be the identity of $GL(l, \mathbb{Z})$. Hence any element of C commutes with T . If $C \neq T$, then there is an element $n \in C$ such that the one-parameter subgroup generated by n is not contained in T . As n commutes with T , the closure of the subgroup generated by T and the one-parameter subgroup is Abelian, hence a torus. However, it strictly contains T , which contradicts maximality. It follows that $C = T$, so $W = N(T)/T = N(T)/C$ is compact and discrete, hence finite. $\square$

Let $\mathfrak{g}$ be the Lie algebra of G , and $\mathfrak{t}$ the Lie algebra of T . T acts on $\mathfrak{g}$ via the adjoint action AdT .

Proposition 2.2. *We have a decomposition $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{t} \oplus \mathfrak{m}$, where $\mathfrak{m}$ is invariant under $Ad(T)$. In addition, $\mathfrak{m}$ splits into the direct sum of 2-dimensional irreducible $Ad(T)$ -representations $\mathfrak{m} = \bigoplus_{i=1}^v \mathfrak{m}_i$.*

Proof. Since G is compact, there exists a positive-definite bilinear form that is invariant under $Ad(G)$, and hence invariant under $Ad(T)$. $\mathfrak{t}$ is clearly $Ad(T)$ -invariant, hence the orthogonal complement $\mathfrak{m}$.

If $X \in \mathfrak{g} \setminus \mathfrak{t}$ is fixed by $Ad(T)$, then the one-parameter subgroup generated by $\exp(tX) \notin T$ commutes with T . This implies that T is strictly contained in the torus generated by T and $\exp(tX)$, which is a contradiction. Hence every X in $\mathfrak{m}$ is not fixed by $\mathfrak{m}$, so $\mathfrak{p}$ decomposes into irreducible non-trivial representations of T , which are all 2-dimensional. $\square$

So we obtain an $Ad(G)$ -invariant decomposition $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{t} \oplus \mathfrak{m}$. $w \in W$ now acts on $\mathfrak{t}$ and $\mathfrak{m}$ by $Ad(n)$, where n is some representative of w . When context is clear, we will abuse notation and $Ad(w)$ instead. The action on $\mathfrak{t}$ induces the dual action on $\mathfrak{t}^*$, given by $(w \cdot f)(X) = f(Ad(w)^{-1}X)$ for all $X \in \mathfrak{t}$.

Proposition 2.3. *G/T is a manifold.*

Proof. See [1, Proposition 15.10]. $\square$

Now let Φ be the set of roots of G . Write Φ^+ for the positive roots, and Σ for the simple roots, which are roots that cannot be expressed as the sum of other roots. For a real vector space V , define the complexification $V_{\mathbb{C}} := V \otimes \mathbb{C}$ of V . We have

$$\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}} := \mathfrak{t}_{\mathbb{C}} \oplus \bigoplus_{i=1}^v \mathfrak{m}_{i\mathbb{C}}$$

Each $\mathfrak{m}_{i\mathbb{C}}$ further decomposes into 1-dimensional subspaces $\mathfrak{X}_{\alpha}$ and $\mathfrak{X}_{-\alpha}$, where $\mathfrak{X}_{\alpha}$ is the eigenspace $V(\alpha) := \{X \in \mathfrak{g} : Ad(t)X = \alpha(t)X\}$.

Theorem 2.4. *Let $\alpha \in \Phi$. Then there exists X_{α} such that $H_{\alpha} := [X_{\alpha}, X_{-\alpha}] \in \mathfrak{t}$ and the X_{α} span $\mathfrak{m}$. Furthermore, for $\alpha, \beta \in \Phi$, $\alpha \neq -\beta$ we have $[X_{\alpha}, X_{\beta}] \in V(\alpha + \beta)$*

Proof. See [1, Chapter 18]. $\square$

W is generated by the reflections s_{α} across the hyperplane orthogonal to α for $\alpha \in \Sigma$. We can then define the length of $w \in W$ $l(w)$ to be the minimal n such that w can be written as a product of simple reflections².

Now consider the complexification $G_{\mathbb{C}}$ of G . This is the complex Lie group that satisfies the following universal property for any complex Lie group H :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G & \xrightarrow{i} & G_{\mathbb{C}} \\ & \searrow \forall & \downarrow \exists! \\ & & H \end{array}$$

Define $\mathfrak{n} := \bigoplus_{\alpha \in \Phi^+} \mathfrak{X}_{\alpha}$, $\mathfrak{b} := \mathfrak{n} \oplus \mathfrak{t}_{\mathbb{C}}$.

²with $l(e) = 0$

Theorem 2.5. Let $N := \exp(\mathfrak{n})$, $B = T_{\mathbb{C}}N$. Then N and B are closed Lie subgroups of $G_{\mathbb{C}}$ with Lie algebras $\mathfrak{n}$ and $\mathfrak{b}$ respectively. Furthermore, There is an embedding $G_{\mathbb{C}} \rightarrow GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ for some n such that $G, T_{\mathbb{C}}, B$ consist of unitary, diagonal and upper triangular matrices respectively.

B is called the standard Borel subgroup of $G_{\mathbb{C}}$

Proof. See [1, Theorem 26.2]. □

Lemma 2.6. $G_{\mathbb{C}}/B \cong G/T$.

Proof. Iwasawa decomposition implies that $G_{\mathbb{C}} = BG$, and $B \cap G = T$ (which can be seen by using the above embedding). Hence we have $G_{\mathbb{C}}/B \cong G/T$ □

3 section 3

The p^{th} symmetric and exterior power of $\mathfrak{t}^*$ are

$$\mathcal{S}^p := \frac{(\mathfrak{t}^*)^{\otimes p}}{\langle v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_p - v_{\sigma 1} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{\sigma p} : \sigma \in \text{Sym}(\{1, \dots, p\}), v_i \in \mathfrak{t}^* \rangle}$$

and

$$\Lambda^p := \frac{(\mathfrak{t}^*)^{\otimes p}}{\langle v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_p - \text{sgn}(\sigma) v_{\sigma 1} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{\sigma p} : \sigma \in \text{Sym}(\{1, \dots, p\}), v_i \in \mathfrak{t}^* \rangle}$$

respectively. Note that $\dim(\Lambda^p) = 0$ for $p > l$.

Define

$$\mathcal{S} := \bigoplus_{p=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{S}^p, \Lambda := \bigoplus_{p=0}^l \Lambda^p$$

Since $\mathcal{S}^p$ can be thought of as the homogenous polynomials on $\mathfrak{t}^*$ of degree p , $\mathcal{S}$ can be identified with the polynomials on $\mathfrak{t}^*$, i.e. $\mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_l]$.

The action of W on $\mathfrak{t}^*$ extends to an action on $(\mathfrak{t}^*)^{\otimes p}$, which induces a well-defined action on $\mathcal{S}$ and Λ that preserves degrees.

We have the following theorem due to Chevalley:

Theorem 3.1. (Chevalley): Let $\mathcal{S}^W$ be the W -invariant polynomials. Then there are algebraically independent homogenous polynomials $J_1, \dots, J_l$ such that $\mathcal{S}^W = \mathbb{R}[J_1, \dots, J_l]$

Proof. See [5, page 356]. □

Proposition 3.2. Let $m_i = \deg(J_i) - 1$. Then $\sum_{i=1}^l m_i = v$ and $\prod_{i=1}^l (1 + m_i) = |W|$

Proof. See [5, page 359] □

Now consider the action of $\mathfrak{t}$ on $\mathfrak{t}^*$ by

$$(X \cdot f)(Y) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} f(Y + tX) \right|_{t=0}$$

This extends to an action of $\mathcal{D} := \bigoplus_{p=0}^{\infty} S^p$ where S^p is the p th symmetric power of $\mathfrak{t}$.

Define the harmonic polynomials as

$$\mathcal{H} := \{f \in \mathcal{S} : \mathcal{D}^W f = 0\}$$

Consider $\mathcal{H}^p := \mathcal{H} \cap \mathcal{S}^p$.

Proposition 3.3. $\mathcal{H} = \bigoplus_{p=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{H}^p$

Proof. Note that an element of $\mathcal{D}$ is W -invariant iff all of its homogenous components are. Consider $f \in \mathcal{H}$ of degree n . Write f as the sum of its homogenous components, $f = \sum_{k=0}^n f_k$, where f_k has degree k . Consider a homogenous element $D \in \mathcal{D}^W$ of degree q . This sends a polynomial in $\mathcal{S}^p$ to a polynomial in $\mathcal{S}^{p-q}$. $D(f) = \sum_{k=0}^n D(f_k) = 0$ as f is harmonic, and since non-zero homogenous polynomials of different degrees are linearly independent, the $D(f_k)$ must all be zero. Hence the f_k are harmonic. $\square$

Now let I be the ideal generated by the positive degree elements of $\mathcal{S}^W$.

Proposition 3.4. $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{H} \oplus I$ and there is an isomorphism of vector spaces $\mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{S}^W \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{S}$ induced by multiplication.

Proof. See [5, page 381(or 360 i cant tell)] $\square$

Proposition 3.5.

$$\sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \dim \mathcal{H}^p t^p = \prod_{i=1}^l (1 + t + \dots + t^{\deg F_i - 1})$$

Hence $\dim \mathcal{H}^v = 1$ and $\dim \mathcal{H}^p = 0$ for $p > v$.

Proof. Since we have an isomorphism $\mathcal{S} \cong \mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{S}^W \cong \mathcal{H} \otimes \bigotimes_{i=1}^l \mathbb{R}[F_i]$, we have

$$\sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \dim(\mathcal{S}^p) t^p = \left(\sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \dim(\mathcal{H}^p) t^p \right) \prod_{i=1}^l \left(\sum_{p=0}^{\infty} t^{p \deg(F_i)} \right) = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \dim(\mathcal{H}^p) t^p \prod_{i=1}^l \frac{1}{1 - t^{\deg(F_i)}}$$

$\mathcal{S}^p$ is the vector space of homogenous polynomials of degree p , so it has basis $\{x_1^{k_1} \dots x_l^{k_l} : k_1 + \dots + k_l = p\}$ which implies $\dim(\mathcal{S}^p) = \binom{l+p-1}{p}$. Hence

$$\sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \dim(\mathcal{H}^p) t^p = \prod_{i=1}^l (1 - t^{\deg(F_i)}) \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \binom{l+p-1}{p} t^p = \left(\sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \binom{l+p-1}{p} t^p (1-t)^l \right) \prod_{i=1}^l (1 + t + \dots + t^{\deg F_i - 1})$$

We recognize $\binom{l+p-1}{p} t^p (1-t)^l$ as the probability mass function of a negative binomial variable with parameters l and $1-t$, and hence the sum is 1. The result follows. $\square$

In particular, this implies that $\dim(\mathcal{H}^v) = 1$ and $\dim(\mathcal{H}^p) = 0$ for $p > v$.

Proposition 3.6. *Let*

$$\Pi := \prod_{\alpha \in \Phi^+} \alpha$$

Then Π is harmonic.

Proof. See [5, page 361]. $\square$

Theorem 3.7. (Solomon): $(\mathcal{S} \otimes \Lambda)^W$ is a free $\mathcal{S}^W$ module with basis

$$\{dF_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dF_{i_q} : 1 \leq i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_q \leq l, 1 \leq q \leq l\}$$

Proof. See [5, page 363] $\square$

Lemma 3.8. *Let G be a finite group, V be a finite-dimensional representation of G over a subfield $\mathbb{K} \subseteq \mathbb{C}$. Then $\dim(V) = \dim([\mathbb{K}[G] \otimes V]^G)$*

Proof. Assume $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{C}$. The map $\pi := \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} g$ is the projection of V onto the G -invariants V^G . Since the trace of the projection map is equal to the dimension of the image, $\dim(V^G) = \text{Tr}(\pi) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \chi_V(g)$ where χ_V is the character of the representation. This implies that

$$\dim([\mathbb{C}[G] \otimes V]^G) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \chi_{[\mathbb{C}[G] \otimes V]}(g) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \chi_{[\mathbb{C}[G]]}(g) \chi_V(g)$$

Since $\chi_{[\mathbb{C}[G]]}(g) = \begin{cases} |G| & \text{if } g = e \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$, we have

$$\dim([\mathbb{C}[G] \otimes V]^G) = \frac{1}{|G|} \chi_{[\mathbb{C}[G]]}(e) \chi_V(e) = \frac{1}{|G|} |G| \dim(V) = \dim(V)$$

So the claim is true when $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{C}$. For arbitrary $\mathbb{K} \subseteq \mathbb{C}$, note that we have $\dim_{\mathbb{K}}(V) = \dim_{\mathbb{C}}(V \otimes \mathbb{C})$, $\dim_{\mathbb{K}}(V^G) = \dim_{\mathbb{C}}([V \otimes \mathbb{C}]^G)$, so the statement is true over arbitrary subfields of $\mathbb{C}$ as well. $\square$

In particular, it is true over $\mathbb{R}$

Corollary 3.9. $\{dJ'_{i_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dJ'_{i_k} : 1 \leq k \leq l\}$ is a basis for the W -invariants of $(\mathcal{S}/I \otimes \Lambda)$ (as an $\mathbb{R}$ -vector space), where dJ'_i is dJ_i with its coefficients reduced modulo I .

Proof. Theorem 3.6 implies that $\{dJ'_{i_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dJ'_{i_k} : 1 \leq k \leq l\}$ spans the W -invariants of $(\mathcal{S}/I \otimes \Lambda)$, and since $\dim([\mathcal{S}/I \otimes \Lambda]^W) = \dim(\Lambda) = 2^l$ by Lemma 3.8, it is indeed a basis. $\square$

4 Left-invariant differential forms

For more details, see [2].

Let M be a manifold with an action τ of G on it, with each τ_g being a diffeomorphism. The left-invariant forms on M are the forms such that $\tau_g^* \omega := \omega$, τ_g^* the pullback of τ_g .

We can naturally identify the left-invariant forms on M with the dual space of the tangent space at a point.

Given a form ω on M , we can define a left-invariant form

$$\tilde{\omega} := \int_G L_g^* \omega \, d\mu$$

where μ is the unique Haar measure on G with $\mu(G) = 1$. The map $\omega \mapsto \tilde{\omega}$ commutes with the exterior derivative, and hence induces a chain map on the chain complexes of the left-invariant differential forms and the ordinary differential forms.

Theorem 4.1. *The cohomology ring of the left-invariant differential forms is the same as the cohomology ring of the ordinary differential forms. In addition, the above map induces a chain homotopy between the two chain complexes.*

Proof. See [2] $\square$

Hence we can identify the differential forms on G, T and G/T with elements on $\mathfrak{g}^*, \mathfrak{t}^*$, and T_T^* respectively, where T_T is the tangent space of G/T at $T \in G/T$. By considering the differential of the projection $G \rightarrow G/T$, we can identify T_T with $\mathfrak{m}$.

For a manifold M , smooth vector fields X_i , and an n -form ω on M , we have

$$\begin{aligned} d\omega(X_1, \dots, X_{n+1}) &= \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n+1} (-1)^i X_i(\omega(X_1, \dots, \hat{X}_i, \dots, X_{n+1})) \\ &\quad + \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n+1} (-1)^{i+j} \omega([X_i, X_j], X_1, \dots, \hat{X}_i, \dots, \hat{X}_j, \dots, X_{n+1}) \end{aligned}$$

where the hat denotes removal. So for left-invariant forms on we just have

$$d\omega(X_1, \dots, X_{n+1}) = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n+1} (-1)^{i+j} \omega([X_i, X_j], X_1, \dots, \hat{X}_i, \dots, \hat{X}_j, \dots, X_{n+1}) \quad (*)$$

5 Structure of $H^*(T)$ and $H^*(G/T)$

We start by determining the structure of $H^*(T)$.

Lemma 5.1. *Let $T = (S^1)^l$ be a torus of dimension l . Then $H^*(T) \cong \Lambda[dx_1, \dots, dx_l]$ where $dx_1, \dots, dx_l$ are a basis for $H^1(T) \cong \mathfrak{t}^*$.*

Proof. This is a standard application of the Künneth formula. □

Now consider the complexification $G_{\mathbb{C}}$ of G .

Theorem 5.2. *Let W be the Weyl group G , and B the standard Borel subgroup of $G_{\mathbb{C}}$. Then we have a decomposition $G_{\mathbb{C}} = \coprod_{w \in W} BwB$.*

Proof. See [1, Chapter 27] □

This gives a decomposition $G_{\mathbb{C}}/B = \coprod_{w \in W} BwB/B$.

Theorem 5.3. *The Bruhat decomposition gives a cellular structure on $G_{\mathbb{C}}/B \cong G/T$, with cells BwB/B . Furthermore, the interior of BwB/B is homeomorphic to $\mathbb{C}^{l(w)}$ where $l(w)$ is the length of w .*

Proof. See [7] □

Since each cell is even-dimensional, cellular cohomology implies that $H^*(G/T)$ only has even-degree elements, and as an $\mathbb{R}$ -vector space it has dimension W .

Let $w \in W$ act on G/T by $w \cdot gT = gn^{-1}T$ where n is some representative of w in the normalizer of T in G . (This action is chosen because it induces the adjoint action on $\mathfrak{m}$.)

Proposition 5.4. *The W -module structure of $H^*(G/T)$ induced by the action of W on $H^*(G/T)$ is isomorphic to $\mathbb{R}[W]$, the regular representation of W .*

Proof. Consider the action of W on G/T . It suffices to show that for any $w \in W$ the trace of the maps $w: H^*(G/T) \rightarrow H^*(G/T)$ and $W: \mathbb{R}[W] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}[W]$, since $H^*(G/T)$ and $\mathbb{R}[W]$ have the same dimension as $\mathbb{R}$ -vector spaces. For any non-identity $w \in W$, w clearly has no fixed points. Since G/T is compact, by the Lefschetz fixed-point theorem we have

$$\sum_{k \geq 0} (-1)^k \text{Tr}(w^*: H^k(G/T) \rightarrow H^k(G/T)) = 0$$

Since there is no cohomology in the odd degrees, this implies that the trace of the induced map on cohomology w^* is 0.

For the identity $e \in W$, the trace is clearly $|W|$. Clearly this is the same for $\mathbb{R}[W]$, so they are isomorphic as W -modules. □

Corollary 5.5. *$H^*(G/T)$ has no non-trivial W -invariants in non-zero degrees.*

Proof. $H^*(G/T) \cong \mathbb{R}[W]$ as W -modules, and

$$w \cdot \sum_{w \in W} \alpha_w w = \sum_{w \in W} \alpha_w w \quad \forall w \in W \Rightarrow \alpha_e = \alpha_w \quad \forall w \in W$$

as W is a basis for $\mathbb{R}[W]$. Clearly $\sum_{w \in W} w$ is W -invariant, so the space of W -invariants in $\mathbb{R}[W]$ is 1-dimensional. Representing each class in $H^0(G/T)$ as locally constant smooth functions from G/T to $\mathbb{R}$, we see that for such functions f , w acts by $(w \cdot f)(gT) = f(w \cdot gT) = f(gT)$ as G/T is connected. So $H^0(G/T)$ is a 1-dimensional subspace with each of its elements being W -invariant, and hence is precisely the space of W -invariants. This implies that $H^{2n}(G/T)$ does not have any non-zero W -invariants for any $n \geq 1$. □

Now we have the following theorem due to Borel which will allow us to determine the structure of $H^*(G/T)$.

Theorem 5.6. (Borel): *There is a degree-doubling W -equivariant isomorphism*

$$\bar{c}: \mathcal{S}/I \rightarrow H^*(G/T)$$

Proof. We can treat the classes in $H^*(G/T)$ as left-invariant forms by the arguments in the previous section. Let $\lambda \in \mathfrak{t}^*$. We can extend it to an element of $\mathfrak{g}^*$ by setting it to be 0 on $\mathfrak{m}$. Now define a 2-form ω_λ on $\mathfrak{g}$ by $\omega(X, Y) = \lambda([X, Y])$. Restricting to G/T , we get a form ω_λ corresponding to a left-invariant form on G/T . $w \in W$ acts on both $\mathfrak{t}$ and $\mathfrak{m}$ by $Ad(w)^3$, so $\omega_{w\lambda}(X, Y) = \lambda(Ad(w)[X, Y]) = \lambda([Ad(w)X, Ad(w)Y]) = (w \cdot \omega_\lambda)(X, Y)$. Hence the map preserves the W -action.

Now $\delta\omega(X, Y, Z) = -\omega([X, Y], Z) + \omega([X, Z], Y) - \omega([Y, Z], X) = \lambda([Z, [X, Y]] + [Y, [Z, X]] + [X, [Y, Z]]) = 0$. This implies that $\delta\omega_\lambda = 0$, and hence $[\tilde{\omega}_\lambda] \in H^2(G/T)$, and we then define $c(\lambda) = [\tilde{\omega}_\lambda]$. This then extends to a degree-doubling homomorphism $c: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow H^*(G/T)$ which preserves the W -action. Since positive-degree elements are mapped to positive-degree elements and $H^{2n}(G/T)$ has no non-zero W -invariants, this implies that $c(I) = 0$. So c induces a homomorphism $\bar{c}: \mathcal{S}/I \rightarrow H^*(G/T)$. As $\mathcal{S} \cong I \oplus \mathcal{H}$ and $\dim(\mathcal{H}) = \dim(H^*(G/T)) = |W|$, it suffices to show that the restriction of c to $\mathcal{H}$ is injective. We will show this by a (backwards) induction argument. To start off, we prove that $c: \mathcal{H}^v \rightarrow H^{2v}(G/T)$ is injective. As $\{\Pi\}$ is a basis for $\mathcal{H}^v$, it suffices to show that $c(\Pi) \neq 0$. For a positive root α_i , Write $\omega_i = \omega_{\alpha_i}$, so $c(\Pi) = c(\prod_{i=1}^v \alpha_i) = [\tilde{\omega}_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \tilde{\omega}_v]$. As G/T is orientable, for any non-zero left-invariant⁴ $2v$ -form ω we have

$$\int_{G/T} \omega \neq 0$$

Hence it suffices to show that $\tilde{\omega}_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \tilde{\omega}_v \neq 0$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_v(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{-\alpha_1}, \dots, X_{\alpha_v}, X_{-\alpha_v}) \\ &= \frac{1}{(2v)!} \sum_{\sigma \in \text{Sym}(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{-\alpha_1}, \dots, X_{\alpha_v}, X_{-\alpha_v})} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \omega_1(\sigma X_{\alpha_1}, \sigma X_{-\alpha_1}) \cdots \omega_v(\sigma X_{\alpha_v}, \sigma X_{-\alpha_v}) \\ &= \frac{1}{(2v)!} \sum_{\sigma \in \text{Sym}(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{-\alpha_1}, \dots, X_{\alpha_v}, X_{-\alpha_v})} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \alpha_1([\sigma X_{\alpha_1}, \sigma X_{-\alpha_1}]) \cdots \alpha_v([\sigma X_{\alpha_v}, \sigma X_{-\alpha_v}]) \end{aligned}$$

Now $\alpha_i([\sigma X_{\alpha_i}, \sigma X_{-\alpha_i}]) = 0$ unless $[\sigma X_{\alpha_i}, \sigma X_{-\alpha_i}] \in \mathfrak{t}$, so $\text{sgn}(\sigma) \alpha_1([\sigma X_{\alpha_1}, \sigma X_{-\alpha_1}]) \cdots \alpha_v([\sigma X_{\alpha_v}, \sigma X_{-\alpha_v}])$ is non-zero only if σ permutes the pairs $\{X_{\alpha_i}, X_{-\alpha_i}\}$, and possibly switches the members of each pair. For such σ , we clearly have $\text{sgn}(\sigma) = (-1)^{\text{number of pair switches}}$, so

$$\begin{aligned} & \omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_v(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{-\alpha_1}, \dots, X_{\alpha_v}, X_{-\alpha_v}) \\ &= \frac{1}{(2v)!} \sum_{\sigma \in \text{Sym}(H_{-\alpha_1}, \dots, H_{\alpha_v})} 2^v \alpha_1(\sigma H_{\alpha_1}) \cdots \alpha_v(\sigma H_{-\alpha_v}) \\ &= \frac{2^v}{(2v)!} \partial_1 \cdots \partial_v \Pi \end{aligned}$$

where $\partial_i \in \mathcal{D}$ is the derivation extending $\lambda \mapsto \lambda(H_{\alpha_i})$. We have a perfect pairing

$$\mathcal{D} \otimes \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

given by $(D, f) \mapsto (Df)(0)$. This implies that there is some $D \in \mathcal{D}^k$ such that $Df \neq 0$. An irreducible W -module can only pair non-trivially with its dual, so $\mathcal{H}^v$ must pair with $\mathcal{D}^v$. Since Π affords the self-dual sign character ϵ , which occurs with multiplicity one in $\mathcal{D}^v$ and is afforded by $\partial_1 \cdots \partial_v$, this implies that $\partial_1 \cdots \partial_v \Pi \neq 0$.

Hence $c(\Pi) \neq 0$, so $c: \mathcal{H}^v \rightarrow H^{2v}(G/T)$ is injective.

Now assume that $c: \mathcal{H}^j \rightarrow H^{2j}(G/T)$ is injective for all $v \geq j > k$, and consider $c: \mathcal{H}^k \rightarrow H^{2k}(G/T)$. Define $V = \mathcal{H}^k \cap \text{Ker}(c)$. As c preserves the W -action, V is W -invariant. As $v > k$, the sign character does not occur

³We will abuse notation and refer to w as both a representative of w in G and just w in W proper when the context is clear

⁴Note that a non-zero form that is not left-invariant does not necessarily have non-zero integral

in $\mathcal{H}^k$, and hence not in V . So there exists α such that the reflection s_α does not act by $-I$ on V . Fix this α . Decompose $V = V_+ \oplus V_-$ according to the eigenspaces of s_α . Since V is W -invariant, it is invariant under the action of s_α . In particular, for $f \in V$ we have $f + s_\alpha f \in V$, which is s_α -invariant. By assumption on α , if $V \neq 0$, then $V_+ \neq 0$. So take $f \in V_+$ with f s_α -invariant. Now $c(\alpha f) = c(\alpha)c(f) = 0$, and $\deg(\alpha f) = k$ so by hypothesis $\alpha f \in I$. Choose a basis $\{h_1, \dots, h_{|W|}\}$ for $\mathcal{H}$, with $h_1, \dots, h_r$ s_α -skew and the rest s_α -invariant for some r . Since $\mathcal{S} \cong \mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{S}^W$, we can write $\alpha f = \sum_i h_i \sigma_i$ where $\sigma_i \in \mathcal{S}^W$. αf is s_α -skew, so this sum only goes up to r . Considering α as an element of $\mathfrak{t}^*$, we have that for $i \leq r$, h_i must vanish on $\text{Ker}(\alpha)$ as they are s_α skew and the vectors in $\text{Ker}(\alpha)$ are s_α invariant, so $h_i = \alpha h'_i$ for some $h'_i \in \mathcal{S}$. This implies that $f = \sum_i h'_i \sigma_i$, so $f \in I$. But $f \in \mathcal{H}$, so $f = 0$. Hence $c: \mathcal{H}^k \rightarrow H^{2k}(G/T)$ is injective. This closes the induction, and so we are done. $\square$

6 Spectral sequences

Consider a fibration $F \rightarrow X \rightarrow B$ with B path-connected. Elements of $\pi_1(B)$ are homotopies of maps $*$ $\rightarrow B$ mapping to a fixed point x_0 , which then lift to homotopy equivalences of the fiber $F_{x_0} \rightarrow F_{x_0}$ by the homotopy lifting property of the fibration. This induces an action of $\pi_1(B)$ on $H^*(F)$. We are interested in the case where this action is trivial.⁵

Theorem 6.1. (Serre spectral sequence for cohomology): For a fibration $F \rightarrow X \rightarrow B$ with B path-connected and $\pi_1(B)$ acting trivially on $H^*(F; G)$, there is a spectral sequence $\{E_r^{p,q}, d_r\}$ with

- a) $d_r: E_r^{p,q} \rightarrow E_r^{p+r, q-r+1}$ and $E_{r+1}^{p,q} = \text{Ker}(d_r) / \text{Im}(d_r)$ at $E_r^{p,q}$
- b) Stable terms $E_\infty^{p,n-p}$ isomorphic to successive quotients F_p^n / F_{p+1}^n in a filtration $0 = F_{n+1}^n \subseteq F_n^n \subseteq \dots \subseteq F_0^n = H^n(X; G)$ of $H^n(X; G)$
- c) $E_2^{p,q} \cong H^p(B; H^q(F; G))$

Proof. See [4, page 26] $\square$

Now for our fibration $T \rightarrow G \rightarrow G/T$, since we can give G/T a cell structure with only even-dimensional cells, $\pi_1(G/T)$ is trivial. Hence we indeed have the Serre cohomological spectral sequence as described above.

Lemma: We have $E_2^{p,q} \cong H^p(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)$.

Proof: There is a canonical isomorphism $V \otimes W \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\text{Hom}(V, \mathbb{R}), W)$ given by $v \otimes w \mapsto (f \mapsto f(v)w)$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} E_2^{p,q} &\cong H^p(G/T; H^q(T)) \\ &\cong \text{Hom}(H_p(G/T), H^q(T)) \text{ by the universal coefficient theorem} \\ &\cong H^p(G/T) \otimes H^q(T) \text{ as } H^p(G/T) \cong \text{Hom}(H_p(G/T), \mathbb{R}) \text{ by the universal coefficient theorem} \end{aligned}$$

Now let R be a commutative ring.

Theorem 6.2. Each page $E_r^{*,*}$ can be provided with a bilinear product $E_r^{p,q} \times E_r^{s,t} \rightarrow E_r^{p+s, q+t}$ such that

- a) For $x \in E_r^{p,q}, y \in E_r^{s,t}$, d_r satisfies $d_r(xy) = d_r(x)y + (-1)^{p+q} x d_r(y)$. This implies that the project on the $E_r^{*,*}$ page induces a product on the $E_{r+1}^{*,*}$ page, which coincides with the product on the $E_r^{*,*}$ page. The products on the $E_r^{*,*}$ pages for r finite also induce the product on $E_\infty^{*,*}$
- b) The product $E_2^{p,q} \times E_2^{s,t} \rightarrow E_2^{p+s, q+t}$ is $(-1)^{qs}$ times the cup product

$$H^p(B; H^q(F; R)) \times H^s(B; H^t(F; R)) \rightarrow H^{p+s}(B; H^{q+t}(F; R))$$

where coefficients are multiplied via the cup product as well.

- c) The cup product on $H^*(X; R)$ restricts to products $F_p^m \times F_s^n \rightarrow F_{p+s}^{m+n}$, which induce products $F_p^m / F_{p+1}^m \times F_s^n / F_{s+1}^n \rightarrow F_{p+s}^{m+n} / F_{p+s+1}^{m+n}$. This is precisely the product on the $E_r^{*,*}$ page.

⁵One can use local coefficients to deal with the case when the action is non-trivial

Proof. For a), refer to [6, page 11], for b) and c), refer to [4, page 28]. $\square$

The n th transgression map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & H^n(X, F) & \xleftarrow{\delta} H^n(F) \\ & \uparrow p^* & \nearrow \\ H^n(B) & \xleftarrow{j^*} & H^n(B, b) \end{array}$$

is the map which maps elements of $\delta^{-1}(\text{Im } p^*) \subset H^n(F)$ to $H^{n+1}(B)/j^*(\text{Ker } p^*)$. In general, it will not map to $H^{n+1}(B)$ proper since p^* need not be an isomorphism.

Proposition 6.3. *The transgression map above is the differential $d_n^{n,0} : E_n^{n,0} \rightarrow E_n^{0,n+1}$.*

Proof. See [4, page 25] for the proof in the homology spectral sequence. The proof for the cohomology spectral sequence is analogous. $\square$

Proposition 6.4. *The differential $d_2^{0,1} : H^1(T) \rightarrow H^2(G/T)$ is the map $[\lambda] \mapsto [\omega_\lambda]$ where $\omega_\lambda(X, Y) := -\tilde{\lambda}([X, Y])$, where $\tilde{\lambda}$ is λ extended to all of $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{t} \oplus \mathfrak{m}$ by setting it to 0 on $\mathfrak{m}$.*

Proof. We know that $d_2^{0,1} : H^1(T) \rightarrow H^2(G/T)$ is the 2nd transgression map. Since G/T is a manifold, each point on G/T has a contractible neighbourhood, so by the homotopy lifting property of the fibration $T \rightarrow G \rightarrow G/T$ we know that T is a (weak) deformation retract of one of its neighbourhoods. Excision then implies that the map p^* above is an isomorphism. Hence we can identify $d_2 : H^1(T) \rightarrow H^2(G/T)$ with the coboundary map $\delta : H^1(T) \rightarrow H^2(G/T)$ in the cohomology long exact sequence associated to $T \rightarrow G \rightarrow G/T$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & C^2(G/T) & \xleftarrow{j^*} C^2(G/T) \\ & \uparrow \delta & \\ C^1(T) & \xleftarrow{i^*} & C^1(G) \end{array}$$

Identifying with left-invariant forms, the maps i^* and j^* are restricting to $\mathfrak{t}$ and extending to all of $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{m} \oplus \mathfrak{t}$ by setting it to be 0 on $\mathfrak{t}$. We have $\delta\lambda(X, Y) = -\lambda([X, Y])$, so the map map sends $[\lambda]$ to $[\omega_\lambda]$ above. $\square$

Write $x_i := \omega_{dx_i}$, and for $\phi \in H^{2n}(G/T), \psi \in H^q(T), X_i, Y_i \in \mathfrak{m}, H_i \in \mathfrak{t}$, define

$$(\phi \otimes \psi)(X_1, Y_1, \dots, X_n, Y_n, H_1, \dots, H_q) = \phi(X_1, Y_1, \dots, X_n, Y_n) \psi(H_1, \dots, H_q)$$

Corollary 6.5. *The differential $d_2 : H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T) \rightarrow H^{2n+2}(G/T) \otimes H^{q-1}(T)$ is the map $[\lambda] \mapsto [\omega_\lambda]$ where*

$$\begin{aligned} & \omega_\lambda(X_1, Y_1, \dots, X_n, Y_n, X_{n+1}, Y_{n+1}, H_1, \dots, H_{q-1}) \\ &= \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{\sigma \in \text{Sym}(X_1, Y_1, \dots, X_{n+1}, Y_{n+1})} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \lambda(\sigma X_1, \sigma Y_1, \dots, \sigma X_n, \sigma Y_n, [\sigma X_{n+1}, \sigma Y_{n+1}]_{\mathfrak{t}}, H_1, \dots, H_{q-1}) \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Consider the case when $n = 0$. $H^q(T)$ has basis $\{dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_q} : 1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_q \leq l\}$, and we have $\omega_{dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_q}} = x_{i_1} dx_{i_2} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_q} - x_{i_2} dx_{i_1} \wedge dx_{i_3} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_q} + \dots + (-1)^{q+1} x_{i_q} dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_{q-1}}$.

Now let $X, Y \in \mathfrak{m}, H_1, \dots, H_{q-1} \in \mathfrak{t}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \omega_{dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_q}}(X, Y, H_1, \dots, H_{q-1}) \\ &= x_{i_1}(X, Y) dx_{i_2} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_q}(H_1, \dots, H_{q-1}) + \dots + (-1)^{q+1} x_{i_q}(X, Y) dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_{q-1}}(H_1, \dots, H_{q-1}) \\ &= dx_{i_1}([X, Y]) dx_{i_2} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_q}(H_1, \dots, H_{q-1}) + \dots + (-1)^{q+1} dx_{i_q}([X, Y]) dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_{q-1}}(H_1, \dots, H_{q-1}) \\ &= dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_q}([X, Y], H_1, \dots, H_{q-1}) \end{aligned}$$

So the claim is true when $n = 0$. Now for $p \in H^{2n}(G/T)$, $\omega_{pdx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_q}} = p\omega_{dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_q}} = px_{i_1}dx_{i_2} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_q} + \dots + (-1)^{q+1}px_{i_q}dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_{q-1}}$. Since for $p \in H^{2n}(G/T)$, $q \in H^{2m}(G/T)$, $X_1, Y_1, \dots, X_{n+m}, Y_{n+m} \in \mathfrak{m}$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} & pq(X_1, Y_1, \dots, X_{n+m}, Y_{n+m}) \\ &= \frac{1}{n!m!} \sum_{\sigma \in \text{Sym}(X_1, Y_1, \dots, X_{n+m}, Y_{n+m})} \text{sgn}(\sigma) p(\sigma X_1, \sigma Y_1, \dots, \sigma X_n, \sigma Y_n) q(\sigma X_{n+1}, \sigma Y_{n+1}, \dots, \sigma X_{n+m}, \sigma Y_{n+m}) \end{aligned}$$

the claim is true for $pdx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_q}$. The result then follows by the fact that the $pdx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_q}$ generate $H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)$. $\square$

Proposition 6.6. *The differential $d_2 : H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^1(T) \rightarrow H^{2n+2}(G/T)$ is surjective.*

Proof. Identify $H^*(G/T)$ with $\mathcal{S}/I$. Then $d_2 : H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T) \rightarrow H^{2n+2}(G/T) \otimes H^{q-1}(T)$ is the map $p(t) \otimes \lambda \mapsto p(t)d_2(\lambda)$. It is clear that $d_2^{0,1} : H^1(T) \rightarrow H^2(G/T)$ is (up to sign) the map $c : \mathcal{S}^1 \rightarrow H^2(G/T)$, so $d_2^{0,1}$ is surjective. From the identification of $H^*(G/T)$ with $\mathcal{S}/I$ we also know that $H^2(G/T)$ generates $H^*(G/T)$ (as an $\mathbb{R}$ -algebra). The result then follows by induction. $\square$

Proposition 6.7. *The differential $d_2^{2n,q} : H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T) \rightarrow H^{2n+2}(G/T) \otimes H^{q-1}(T)$ is W -equivariant*

Proof. From the proof of Theorem 6.1 and Proposition 7.3, we see that $d_2^{0,1} : H^1(T) \rightarrow H^2(G/T)$ is W -equivariant, so for all $p \in H^{2n}(G/T)$

$$\begin{aligned} & d_2^{2n,q}(w \cdot (pdx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_q})) \\ &= d_2^{2n,q}((w \cdot p)(w \cdot dx_{i_1}) \wedge \dots \wedge (w \cdot dx_{i_q})) \\ &= (w \cdot p)d_2^{2n,q}((w \cdot dx_{i_1}) \wedge \dots \wedge (w \cdot dx_{i_q})) \\ &= (w \cdot p)[d_2^{0,1}((w \cdot dx_{i_1}))(w \cdot dx_{i_2}) \wedge \dots \wedge (w \cdot dx_{i_q}) + \\ & \quad \dots + (-1)^{q+1}d_2^{0,1}((w \cdot dx_{i_q}))(w \cdot dx_{i_1}) \wedge \dots \wedge (w \cdot dx_{i_{q-1}})] \\ &= w \cdot [p(d_2^{0,1}(dx_{i_1})dx_{i_2} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_q} + \dots + (-1)^{q+1}d_2^{0,1}(dx_{i_q})dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_{q-1}})] \\ &= w \cdot d_2^{2n,q}(pdx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_q}) \end{aligned}$$

The $pdx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_q}$ generate $H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)$, so the result is proved. $\square$

Write the W -invariants of $H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)$ as $[H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)]^W$.

Proposition 6.8. $[H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)]^W \subseteq \text{Ker}(d_2^{2n,q})$

Proof. There are no no-zero W -invariants in $H^{2n}(G/T)$ for $n > 0$. As $d_2^{2n,1}$ is W -equivariant, this implies that $[H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^1(T)]^W \in \text{Ker}(d_2^{2n,1})$ for all $n \geq 0$. Now apply Corollary 1 and the fact that $d_2^{2n,q}$ is a derivation. $\square$

Proposition 6.9. $[H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)]^W \cap \text{Im}(d_2^{2n-2,q+1}) = \{0\}$

Proof: Assume that $\lambda \in \text{Im}(d_2^{2n-2,q+1})$ is W -invariant. Then there exists $\mu \in H^{2n-2}(G/T) \otimes H^{q+1}(T)$ such that $d_2^{2n-2,q+1}(\mu) = \lambda$. Hence

$$d_2^{2n-2,q+1}\left(\sum_{w \in W} w\mu\right) = \sum_{w \in W} wd_2^{2n-2,q+1}(\mu) = \sum_{w \in W} w\lambda = |W|\lambda$$

as λ is W -invariant. However $\sum_{w \in W} w\mu$ is W -invariant by construction, so we must have $|W|\lambda = 0$ by Proposition 6.8. Hence $\lambda = 0$.

Since $[H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)]^W, \text{Im}(d_2^{2n-2,q+1}) \subseteq \text{Ker}(d_2^{2n,q})$, this shows us that

$$[H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)]^W \oplus \text{Im}(d_2^{2n-2,q+1}) \subseteq \text{Ker}(d_2^{2n,q})$$

Proposition 6.10. Assume that $[H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)]^W \oplus \text{Im}(d_2^{2n-2,q+1}) = \text{Ker}(d_2^{2n,q})$.

Then $E_3^{p,q} \cong [H^p(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)]^W$, and the spectral sequence degenerates at E_3 . Moreover, $H^*(G) \cong [H^*(T) \otimes H^*(G/T)]^W$.

Proof. The first statement is obvious. For the second, note that for $r \geq 3$ $d_r^{2n,1} : E_r^{2n,1} \rightarrow E_r^{2n+r,2-r}$ is the zero map, as $E_3^{2n+r,2-r} \cong 0$. Since d_3 is a derivation, and the products of the elements in $E_3^{2n,1}$ generate the E_3 page, all the differentials on the E_3 page are zero. The product on E_{r+1} is induced by the product on E_r , so by induction this implies that all the differentials on E_r for $r \geq 3$ are zero. This proves the second claim.

For the last claim, Theorem 7.1 (b) tells us that there is a filtration $0 = F_{n+1}^n \subseteq F_n^n \subseteq \cdots \subseteq F_0^n = H^n(G)$ such that $E_\infty^{p,n-p} \cong F_p^n / F_{p+1}^n$. Vector spaces are nice, so

$$H^n(G) \cong \bigoplus_{p=0}^n F_p^n / F_{p+1}^n \cong \bigoplus_{i=0}^n [H^p(G/T) \otimes H^{n-p}(T)]^W$$

which are the degree n terms in $[H^*(T) \otimes H^*(G/T)]^W$. The cup product in $H^*(G)$ induces the product on the E_∞ page by Theorem 7.2c), so the above isomorphism implies that the product on $[H^*(G/T) \otimes H^*(T)]^W$ gives us the product on $H^*(G)$. $\square$

Hence it suffices to show that

$$[H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)]^W \oplus \text{Im}(d_2^{2n-2,q+1}) = \text{Ker}(d_2^{2n,q}) \text{ for all } n, q \geq 0. \quad (**)$$

Clearly this is true when $q = 0$.

Lemma 6.11. Let $\lambda \in H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)$ be such that $\omega_\lambda = 0$. Then $[\lambda] \in \text{Im}(d_2^{2n-2,q+1})$.

Here ω_λ is as in Proposition 6.4.

Proof. Consider the alternating form μ defined by

$$\begin{aligned} & \mu(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{2n-2}, X_{2n-1}, H_{\beta_0}, H_{\beta_1}, H_2, \dots, H_q) \\ &= \frac{1}{n+1} (\lambda(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{2n-2}, X_{2n-1}, X_{\beta_0}, X_{-\beta_0}, H_{\beta_1}, H_2, \dots, H_q) \\ & \quad - \lambda(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{2n-2}, X_{2n-1}, X_{\beta_1}, X_{-\beta_1}, H_{\beta_0}, H_2, \dots, H_q)) \end{aligned}$$

Note that if each X_i is an X_{α_i} for some root α_i and μ is non-zero, $X_i = X_\alpha$ iff $X_j = X_{-\alpha}$ for some j (i.e. we can pair the X_i up). For $X_i \in \mathfrak{m}, H_i \in \mathfrak{t}, \beta_0, \beta_1$ roots, Write $\delta_{G/T}$ and δ_T for the differentials in the de Rham complex for G/T and T respectively. Consider $(\delta_{G/T} \otimes Id)(\mu)(X_{\alpha_1}, \dots, X_{\alpha_{2n-1}}, H_{\beta_1}, \dots, H_{\beta_{q-1}})$, and assume it is non-zero. Then, WLOG we can assume

$$\mu(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{\alpha_2}, \dots, X_{\alpha_{2n-3}}, [X_{\alpha_{2n-2}}, X_{\alpha_{2n-1}}]_{\mathfrak{m}}, H_{\beta_0}, \dots, H_{\beta_q}) \neq 0$$

So we can take $\alpha_1 = -\alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_{2n-5} = \alpha_{2n-4}, \alpha_{2n-3} = -\alpha_{2n-2} - \alpha_{2n-3}$, with all the α_i distinct. Since the α_i are distinct, this implies that the terms with $1 \leq i \leq 2n-4$ in $*$ are all zero, since the X_{α_i} cannot pair up. So

$$\begin{aligned} & (\delta_{G/T} \otimes Id)(\mu)(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{\alpha_2}, \dots, X_{\alpha_{2n-1}}, H_{\beta_0}, \dots, H_{\beta_q}) \\ &= -\mu(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{\alpha_2}, \dots, [X_{\alpha_{2n-3}}, X_{\alpha_{2n-2}}], X_{\alpha_{2n-1}}, H_{\beta_0}, \dots, H_{\beta_q}) \\ & \quad + \mu(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{\alpha_2}, \dots, [X_{\alpha_{2n-3}}, X_{\alpha_{2n-1}}], X_{\alpha_{2n-2}}, H_{\beta_0}, \dots, H_{\beta_q}) \\ & \quad - \mu(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{\alpha_2}, \dots, [X_{\alpha_{2n-2}}, X_{\alpha_{2n-1}}], X_{\alpha_{2n-3}}, H_{\beta_0}, \dots, H_{\beta_q}) \end{aligned}$$

Since $\delta_{G/T} \otimes Id(\lambda) = 0$, the same logic implies that

$$\begin{aligned} & -\lambda(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{\alpha_2}, \dots, [X_{\alpha_{2n-3}}, X_{\alpha_{2n-2}}], X_{\alpha_{2n-1}}, X_{\beta_0}, X_{-\beta_0}, \dots, H_{\beta_q}) \\ & + \lambda(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{\alpha_2}, \dots, [X_{\alpha_{2n-3}}, X_{\alpha_{2n-1}}], X_{\alpha_{2n-2}}, X_{\beta_0}, X_{-\beta_0}, \dots, H_{\beta_q}) \\ & - \lambda(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{\alpha_2}, \dots, [X_{\alpha_{2n-2}}, X_{\alpha_{2n-1}}], X_{\alpha_{2n-3}}, X_{\beta_0}, X_{-\beta_0}, \dots, H_{\beta_q}) \\ & = 0 \end{aligned}$$

So in fact we have $(\delta_{G/T} \otimes Id)(\mu)(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{\alpha_2}, \dots, X_{\alpha_{2n-1}}, H_{\beta_0}, \dots, H_{\beta_q}) = 0$, a contradiction. Hence $\delta_{G/T} \otimes Id(\mu) = 0$. Similar reasoning implies that $Id \otimes \delta_T(\mu) = 0$, so $\mu \in H^*(G/T) \otimes H^*(T)$.

Now

$$\begin{aligned}
& \omega_\mu(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{-\alpha_1}, \dots, X_{\alpha_{n-1}}, X_{-\alpha_{n-1}}, X_{\alpha_n}, X_{-\alpha_n}, H_{\beta_1}, \dots, H_{\beta_q}) \\
&= \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \sum_{\sigma \in \text{Sym}(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{-\alpha_1}, \dots, X_{\alpha_n}, X_{-\alpha_n})} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \mu(\sigma X_{\alpha_1}, \sigma X_{-\alpha_1}, \dots, \sigma X_{\alpha_{n-1}}, \sigma X_{-\alpha_{n-1}}, [\sigma X_{\alpha_n}, \sigma X_{-\alpha_n}], H_{\beta_1}, \dots, H_{\beta_{q-1}}) \\
&= \frac{1}{n+1} \left(\sum_{\sigma \in \text{Sym}(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{-\alpha_1}, \dots, X_{\alpha_n}, X_{-\alpha_n})} \lambda(\sigma X_{\alpha_1}, \sigma X_{-\alpha_1}, \dots, \sigma X_{\alpha_{n-1}}, \sigma X_{-\alpha_{n-1}}, \sigma X_{\alpha_n}, \sigma X_{-\alpha_n}, H_{\beta_1}, \dots, H_{\beta_{q-1}}) \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \sum_{\sigma \in \text{Sym}(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{-\alpha_1}, \dots, X_{\alpha_n}, X_{-\alpha_n})} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \lambda(\sigma X_{\alpha_1}, \sigma X_{-\alpha_1}, \dots, \sigma X_{\alpha_{n-1}}, \sigma X_{-\alpha_{n-1}}, X_{\beta_1}, X_{-\beta_1}, [\sigma X_{\alpha_n}, \sigma X_{-\alpha_n}], \dots, H_{\beta_{q-1}}) \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{n+1} (n\lambda(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{-\alpha_1}, \dots, X_{\alpha_n}, X_{-\alpha_n}, H_{\beta_1}, \dots, H_{\beta_q}) + \lambda(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{-\alpha_1}, \dots, X_{\alpha_n}, X_{-\alpha_n}, [X_{\beta_1}, X_{-\beta_1}], \dots, H_{\beta_q})) \\
&= \lambda(X_{\alpha_1}, X_{-\alpha_1}, \dots, X_{\alpha_n}, X_{-\alpha_n}, H_{\beta_1}, \dots, H_{\beta_q})
\end{aligned}$$

Hence $\omega_\mu = \lambda$, so the result is proved. $\square$

Assume that $[H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)]^W \oplus \text{Im}(d_2^{2n-2, q+1}) = \text{Ker}(d_2^{2n, q})$. Then for any $\lambda \in \text{Ker}(d_2^{2n, q})$, there exists $\mu \in [H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)]^W, v \in \text{Im}(d_2^{2n-2, q+1})$ such that $\lambda = \mu + v$. So $\lambda - w\lambda = v - wv$, which is in $\text{Im}(d_2^{2n-2, q+1})$ by the W -equivariance of d_2 . Conversely, if $\lambda - w\lambda \in \text{Im}(d_2^{2n-2, q+1})$ for all $\lambda \in \text{Ker}(d_2^{2n, q})$, then $\lambda - \frac{1}{|W|} \sum_{w \in W} w\lambda \in \text{Im}(d_2^{2n-2, q+1})$, so $\lambda = \left(\frac{1}{|W|} \sum_{w \in W} w\lambda \right) + \left(\lambda - \frac{1}{|W|} \sum_{w \in W} w\lambda \right)$, i.e. $[H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)]^W \oplus \text{Im}(d_2^{2n-2, q+1}) = \text{Ker}(d_2^{2n, q})$. So it suffices to show that $\alpha \in [\lambda - w\lambda]$ such that $\omega_\alpha = 0$. Note that for $\lambda \in \text{Ker}(d_2^{2n, q})$, $[\omega_\lambda] = [0]$ so ω_λ is a form with coefficients in I .

Proposition 6.12. $[H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^1(T)]^W \oplus \text{Im}(d_2^{2n-2, 2}) = \text{Ker}(d_2^{2n, 1})$

Proof. Identify the elements of $H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^1(T)$ with polynomial-coefficient 1-forms on T . Let $\lambda \in \text{Ker}(d_2^{2n, 1})$. Then $d_2^{2n, 1}(\lambda) = \sum_i f_i J_i = J + \sum_i \tilde{f}_i J_i$, where $J \in \mathcal{S}^W$ and $\tilde{f}_i$ is f_i without the constant term. Then there exists v_i such that $d_2(v_i) = f_i$, as the maps $d_2^{2n, 1} : H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^1(T) \rightarrow H^{2n+2}(G/T)$ are surjective. Hence $\alpha = \lambda - \sum_{i=1}^l J_i v_i$ maps to J . Since $\alpha \in [\lambda]$, $\alpha - w\alpha \in [\lambda - w\lambda]$, and clearly $\omega_{\alpha - w\alpha} = 0$. Hence $\alpha - w\alpha \in \text{Im}(d_2^{2n-2, 2})$, and so we're done by Lemma 1. $\square$

This proves the result for compact connected Lie groups of rank 1.⁶

Now, we show that the result is true for compact connected Lie groups of rank 2 and 3. We will use the following lemma:

Proposition 6.13. *The differentials $H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T) \rightarrow H^{2n+2}(G/T) \otimes H^{q-1}(T)$ and $H^{2v-2n-2}(G/T) \otimes H^{l-q+1}(T) \rightarrow H^{2v-2n}(G/T) \otimes H^{l-q}(T)$ are dual, in the sense that the diagram*

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T) & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \text{Hom}(H^{2v-2n}(G/T) \otimes H^{l-q}(T), \mathbb{R}) \\
\downarrow d_2^{2n, q} & & \downarrow (d_2^{2v-2n+2, l-q+1})^* \\
H^{2n+2}(G/T) \otimes H^{q+1}(T) & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \text{Hom}(H^{2v-2n+2}(G/T) \otimes H^{l-q+1}(T), \mathbb{R})
\end{array}$$

commutes up to sign, where the horizontal isomorphisms are the maps

$$v \otimes \lambda \mapsto (\phi \otimes \psi \mapsto (v \smile \phi)(\lambda \smile \psi))$$

Proof. The horizontal maps are indeed isomorphisms, since the pairings $H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^{2v-2n}(G/T) \rightarrow H^{2v}(G/T) \cong \mathbb{R}$ and $H^q(T) \otimes H^{l-q}(T) \rightarrow H^l(G/T) \cong \mathbb{R}$ are perfect. See [3, page 250] for more details.

⁶Note that every rank 1 compact connected Lie group is either a torus or 3 dimensional.

Now consider a $pdx_{i_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i_q} \in H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)$. Going through the top horizontal map then the right vertical map gives us the functional

$(rdx_{i'_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i'_{l-q+1}} \mapsto prx_{i'_1} dx_{i_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i_q} \wedge dx_{i'_2} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i'_{l-q+1}} - prx_{i'_2} dx_{i_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i_q} \wedge dx_{i'_1} \wedge dx_{i'_3} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i'_{l-q+1}} + \cdots + (-1)^{l-q+2} prx_{i'_{l-q+1}} dx_{i_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i_q} \wedge dx_{i'_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i'_{l-q}})$, while going through the left vertical map then the bottom horizontal map gives us the functional

$(rdx_{i'_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i'_{l-q+1}} \mapsto prx_{i_1} dx_{i_2} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i_q} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i'_{l-q+1}} - prx_{i_2} dx_{i_1} \wedge dx_{i_3} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i_q} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i'_{l-q+1}} + \cdots + (-1)^{q+1} prx_{i_q} dx_{i_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i_{q-1}} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i'_{l-q+1}})$.

By the pigeonhole principle, $|\{i'_1, \dots, i'_{l-q+1}\} \cap \{i_1, \dots, i_q\}| \geq 1$. If the inequality is strict, then both functionals map $rdx_{i'_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i'_{l-q+1}}$ to 0. If we have equality, then $\{i'_1, \dots, i'_{l-q+1}\} \cap \{i_1, \dots, i_q\} = \{j\}$ for some $1 \leq j \leq l$. Then up to sign, both functionals map $rdx_{i'_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i'_{l-q+1}}$ to $prx_j dx_{i_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i_q} \wedge dx_{i'_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge \hat{dx}_j \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i'_{l-q+1}}$, where $\hat{}$ denotes removal. Hence the diagram is commutative up to sign. $\square$

Lemma 6.14. $\dim([H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)]^W) = \dim([H^{2v-2n}(G/T) \otimes H^{l-q}(T)]^W)$

Proof. For a sequence $I = (i_1, \dots, i_q)$ with $1 \leq i_1 < \cdots < i_q \leq l$, write dJ'_I for $dJ'_{i_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dJ'_{i_q}$. Also define I' as the increasing sequence with terms in $\{1, \dots, n\} \setminus \{i_1, \dots, i_q\}$. A basis for $[H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)]^W$ is $\mathcal{B}_{2n,q} := \{dJ_I : |I| = q, \sum_{j=1}^q \deg(J_{i_j}) - 1 = n\}$ by Corollary 1. Now consider the map $dJ'_I \mapsto dJ'_{I'}$. This is a map from $\mathcal{B}_{2n,q}$ to $\mathcal{B}_{2v-2n,l-q}$. Since the map $dJ'_{I'} \mapsto dJ'_{I''} = dJ_I$ is an inverse, this implies both sets have the same cardinality, and hence $\dim([H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)]^W) = \dim([H^{2v-2n}(G/T) \otimes H^{l-q}(T)]^W)$. $\square$

We can now prove the result for Lie groups of rank 2 and 3. Since $d_2^{2n,q} : H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T) \rightarrow H^{2n+2}(G/T) \otimes H^{q-1}(T)$ and $d_2^{2v-2n-2,l-q+1} : H^{2v-2n-2}(G/T) \otimes H^{l-q+1}(T) \rightarrow H^{2v-2n}(G/T) \otimes H^{l-q}(T)$ are dual, this means that $\dim(\text{Im}(d_2^{2n-2,q+1})) = \dim(H^{2v-2n}(G/T) \otimes H^{l-q}(T)) - \dim(\text{Ker}(d_2^{2v-2n,l-q}))$, so

$$\begin{aligned} \dim(\text{Ker}(d_2^{2n,q})) &= \dim([H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)]^W) + \dim(\text{Im}(d_2^{2n-2,q+1})) \\ \implies \dim(H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)) - \dim(\text{Im}(d_2^{2n-2,q+1})) \\ &= \dim([H^{2v-2n}(G/T) \otimes H^{l-q}(T)]^W) + \dim(H^{2n}(G/T) \otimes H^q(T)) - \dim(\text{Ker}(d_2^{2n,q})) \\ \implies \dim(\text{Ker}(d_2^{2v-2n,l-q})) &= \dim([H^{2v-2n}(G/T) \otimes H^{l-q}(T)]^W) + \dim(\text{Im}(d_2^{2v-2n-2,l-q+1})) \end{aligned}$$

Hence for a rank l group, $(**)$ for q implies $(**)$ for $l-q$. Hence when $l = 2, 3$, $(**)$ for $q = 0, 1$ implies $(**)$ for $q = 2$ and $q = 2, 3$ respectively. This proves the result for rank 2 and 3 groups.

7 Computations

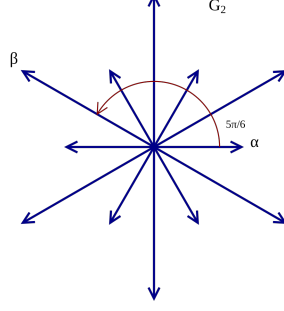
We will now digress and use spectral sequences to calculate $H^*(G_2)$. Let us first note down a useful result first

Theorem 7.1. *The partial derivatives of Π span $\mathcal{H}$.*

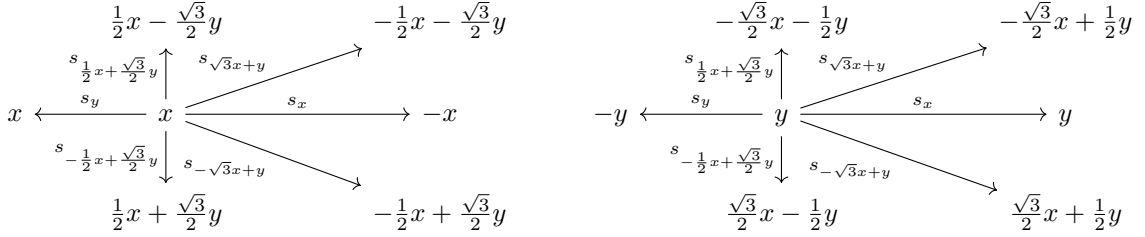
Proof. See [5, page 361] $\square$

7.1 G_2

G_2 is a 14-dimensional compact connected Lie group of rank 2. It has Weyl group $W \cong D_{12}$, which is easily seen by noting that W is isomorphic to the group generated by the reflections of a hexagon.



We will refer to the short horizontal and long vertical root as x and $2y$ respectively. By Proposition 3.2 $m_1 + m_2 = 6$, $(m_1 + 1)(m_2 + 1) = |D_{12}| = 12$, so $m_1 = 1, m_2 = 5$. Hence the generators of the W -invariants as in Theorem 3.1 have degrees 2 and 6.



If $ax^2 + bxy + cy^2$ is W -invariant, then we must have $b = 0$. We also must have

$$\begin{aligned}
 ax^2 + cy^2 &= a \left(\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}y \right)^2 + c \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}x - \frac{1}{2}y \right)^2 \\
 &= a \left(\frac{1}{4}x^2 + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}xy + \frac{3}{4}y^2 \right) + c \left(\frac{3}{4}x^2 - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}xy + \frac{1}{4}y^2 \right) \\
 &\Rightarrow \frac{a}{4} + \frac{3c}{4} = a, \frac{3a}{4} + \frac{c}{4} = c \\
 &\Rightarrow a = c
 \end{aligned}$$

So J_1 must be a multiple of $x^2 + y^2$. It is clear that $x^2 + y^2$ is indeed invariant under the s_α , and hence W -invariant, so we can take $J_1 = x^2 + y^2$. Similarly, if $ax^6 + bx^5y + cx^4y^2 + dx^3y^3 + fx^2y^4 + exy^5 + gy^6$ is W -invariant, then we must have $b = d = e = 0$. We must also have

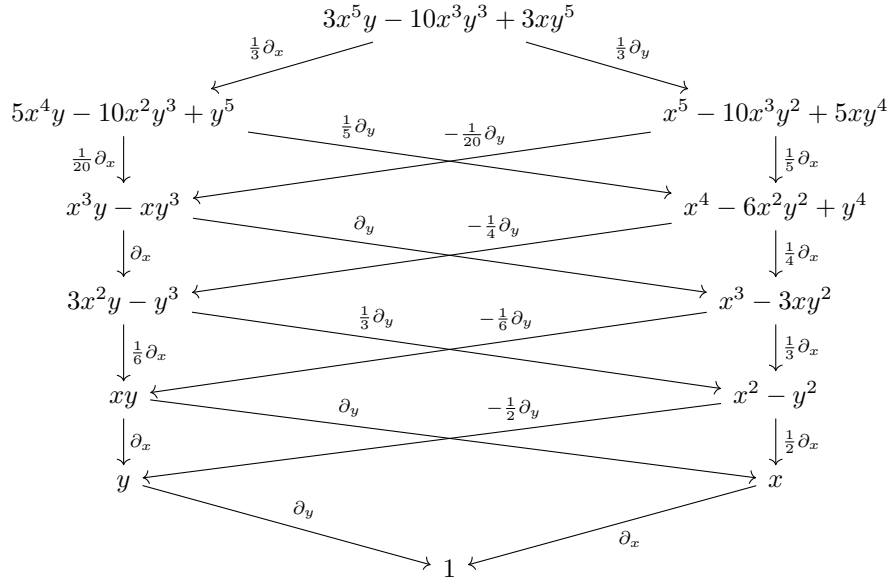
$$\begin{aligned}
 &ax^6 + cx^4y^2 + fx^2y^4 + gy^6 \\
 &= a \left(\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}y \right)^6 + c \left(\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}y \right)^4 \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}x - \frac{1}{2}y \right)^2 + e \left(\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}y \right)^2 \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}x - \frac{1}{2}y \right)^4 + g \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}x - \frac{1}{2}y \right)^6 \\
 &= \frac{a + 3c + 9f + 27g}{64}x^6 + \frac{3a + 5c + 3f - 27g}{32}\sqrt{3}x^5y + \frac{45a + 31c - 27f + 135g}{64}x^4y^2 \\
 &\quad + \frac{15a + c - f - 15g}{16}\sqrt{3}x^3y^3 + \frac{135a - 27c + 31f + 45g}{64}x^2y^4 + \frac{27a - 3c - 5f - 3g}{32}\sqrt{3}xy^5 + \frac{27a + 9c + 3f + g}{64}y^6
 \end{aligned}$$

Which forces $c = 9g - 6a, f = 9a - 6g$, with no restriction on a or g . Setting $a = 0$ gives us the polynomial $gy^2(y^2 - 3x^2)^2$, which one can verify is W -invariant. So we can take $J_2 = y^2(y^2 - 3x^2)^2$.

The primordial harmonic Π is

$$\begin{aligned}
 (x)(\sqrt{3}x + y)\left(\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}y\right)(2y)\left(-\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}y\right)(-\sqrt{3}x + y) &= \frac{1}{2}xy(y^2 - 3x^2)(3y^2 - x^2) \\
 &= \frac{1}{2}(3x^5y - 10x^3y^3 + 3xy^5)
 \end{aligned}$$

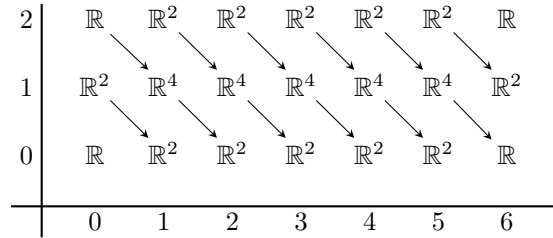
Theorem 8.1 then tells us that the generators for $\mathcal{H}$ are the below polynomials:



By Proposition 3.5, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{p=0}^6 \dim(\mathcal{H}^p) t^p &= (1+t)(1+t+\cdots+t^5) \\ &= 1 + 2t + 2t^2 + 2t^3 + 2t^4 + 2t^5 + t^6 \end{aligned}$$

Hence the E_2 page is



The maps into the $q = 0$ row are all surjective by Proposition 6.6, and hence by Proposition 6.13 the maps out of the $q = 2$ row are all injective. This implies that the only non-zero entries on the E_3 page are $E_3^{0,0}, E_3^{5,1}, E_3^{1,1}$, and $E_3^{6,2}$. We have

$$\text{Im}(d_2^{0,2}) = \langle -ydx + xdy \rangle$$

$$\text{Ker}(d_2^{1,1}) = \langle -ydx + xdy, xdx + ydy \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Im}(d_2^{4,2}) &= \langle (-x^3y^2 + xy^4)dx + (x^4y - x^2y^3)dy, (-x^4y + 6x^2y^3 - y^5)dx + (x^5 - 6x^3y^2 + xy^4)dy \rangle \\ &= \langle 2x^5dx + 2y^5dy, -7y^5dx + 7x^5dy \rangle = \langle x^5dx + y^5dy, -y^5dx + x^5dy \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ker}(d_2^{5,1}) &= \langle (x^5 - 10x^3y^2 + 5xy^4)dx, (5x^4y - 10x^2y^3 + y^5)dx - (x^5 - 10x^3y^2 + 5xy^4)dy, (5x^4y - 10x^2y^3 + y^5)dy \rangle \\ &= \langle 17x^5dx, 17y^5dx - 17x^5dy, 17y^5dy \rangle \\ &= \langle -y^5dx + x^5dy, x^5dx + y^5dy, x^5dx - y^5dy \rangle \end{aligned}$$

noting that the W -invariant $x^2 + y^2$ is zero in $H^*(G/T) \cong \mathcal{S}/I$. So the E_3 page is

2	0	0	0	0	0	0	$\mathbb{R}$
1	0	$\mathbb{R}(xdx + ydy)$	0	0	0	$\mathbb{R}(x^5dx - y^5dy)$	0
0	$\mathbb{R}$	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6

Clearly the spectral sequence degenerates on E_3 , so $E_3 = E_\infty$. Hence $H^*(G_2)$ is isomorphic to the exterior algebra generated by $dJ_1 = 2(xdx + ydy)$ and $dJ_2 = (-2xy^4 + 6x^3y^2)dx + (y^5 - 4x^2y^3 + 3x^4y)dy = -8(x^5dx - y^5dy)$, which aligns with our expectations.

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