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## Cohomology eigenvalues of equivariant mappings

TOR SKJELBRED

Let  $X$  be a topological space which is paracompact Hausdorff and of finite cohomology dimension over a fixed field  $k$ . Let  $G$  be a compact Lie group acting continuously on  $X$  such that there is a finite number of conjugacy classes of isotropy groups  $G_x$ ,  $x \in X$ . Conner conjectured in [2] that if  $H^*(X; k)$  is acyclic, then  $H^*(X/G; k)$  is also acyclic, and he proved the conjecture in case  $k = \mathbb{Q}$ . The conjecture was recently proven in all characteristics by Robert Oliver [8]. The problem of relating  $H^*(X/G; k)$  and  $H^*(X; k)$  is still largely unsolved even in case  $X$  is the unit sphere of a linear representation. In this paper we will consider equivariant mappings  $f: X \rightarrow X$  and relate the eigenvalues of the induced endomorphisms of  $H^*(X/G; k)$  and of  $H^*(X; k)$ . The result obtained should be seen as a generalization of the Conner conjecture to  $G$ -spaces which are not necessarily acyclic.

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $f$  be an equivariant self-mapping of a  $G$ -space  $X$ . Then each eigenvalue of the induced endomorphism of  $\tilde{H}^*(X/G; k)$  is an eigenvalue of the induced endomorphism of  $\tilde{H}^*(X; k)$ , provided  $\dim_k H^*(X; k) < \infty$ .*

More generally we consider the monoid  $\text{Map}(G, X)$  of all equivariant mappings  $X \rightarrow X$ , and a homomorphism from a monoid  $\mathcal{F}$  into  $\text{Map}(G, X)$ . Then  $H^*(X; k)$  and  $H^*(X/G; k)$  become right  $\mathcal{F}$ -modules. Let  $M$  be an abelian group which is a right  $\mathcal{F}$ -module. A simple subquotient of the  $\mathcal{F}$ -module  $M$  is a simple  $\mathcal{F}$ -module isomorphic to  $M_2/M_1$  where  $M_1 \subset M_2 \subset M$  are  $\mathcal{F}$ -submodules.  $M$  may be a module over a field  $k$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  commuting with  $k$ . Even if  $M$  is not finitely generated, the following lemma is straightforward.

**LEMMA 1.** *Let*

$$0 \rightarrow M' \rightarrow M \rightarrow M'' \rightarrow 0$$

*be an exact sequence of  $\mathcal{F}$ -modules. Then a simple  $\mathcal{F}$ -module is a subquotient of  $M$  if and only if it is a subquotient of  $M' \oplus M''$ .*

Our main result then is,

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $X$  be a  $G$ -space and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a monoid of equivariant self-mappings of  $X$ . Then every simple subquotient of the  $\mathcal{F}$ -module  $\tilde{H}^*(X/G; k)$  is a simple subquotient of the  $\mathcal{F}$ -module  $\tilde{H}^*(X; k)$ . If  $Y \subset X$  is a closed subspace invariant under  $G$  and under all  $f \in \mathcal{F}$ , then every simple subquotient of the  $\mathcal{F}$ -module  $H^*(X/G, Y/G; k)$  is a simple subquotient of the  $\mathcal{F}$ -module  $H^*(X, Y; k)$ .*

This result may be interpreted in terms of Serre classes of  $\mathcal{F}$ -modules. Let  $N$  be a simple  $\mathcal{F}$ -module over  $k$ . Then by Lemma 1, those  $\mathcal{F}$ -modules which do not have  $N$  as a subquotient form a Serre class, say  $C_N$ . Theorem 2 says that if  $\tilde{H}^*(X; k)$  belongs to  $C_N$ , then so does  $\tilde{H}^*(X/G; k)$ . It is then a Conner conjecture modulo the Serre class  $C_N$ . If we forget equivariant mappings and consider the Serre class of finitely generated abelian groups, we obtain,

**THEOREM 3.** *Let  $X$  be a  $G$ -space, and assume that  $X$  has finite cohomology dimension over  $\mathbf{Z}$ . Then if  $H^*(X; \mathbf{Z})$  is finitely generated, so is  $H^*(X/G; \mathbf{Z})$ .*

We use Čech cohomology with closed supports. We use some results on cohomology dimension [9] and the localization theory of Borel-Segal-Hsiang-Quillen [1, 6, 9, 10] without further comments. When  $G$  is finite or abelian, the proof of Theorems 1–3 is based on the localization theory. When  $G$  is connected simple, the proof is based on the Conner conjecture and on the existence of the spheres of Floyd-Hsiang [3, 5]. We first simplify the group  $G$ .

**LEMMA 2.** (i) *Let  $N \subset G$  be a closed normal subgroup such that Theorem 2 holds for actions of  $N$  and of  $G/N$ . Then Theorem 2 holds for actions of  $G$ .*

(ii) *It suffices to prove Theorem 2 when  $G$  is either a finite group of prime order, a circle group acting semifreely, or a simple connected Lie group.*

*Proof.* (i) Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a monoid of equivariant self-mappings of the  $G$ -space  $X$ . There is a natural homomorphism  $\mathcal{F} \rightarrow \text{Map}(G/N, X/N)$ , and hence every simple subquotient  $M$  of the  $\mathcal{F}$ -module  $\tilde{H}^*(X/G; k) = \tilde{H}^*((X/N)/(G/N); k)$  is a subquotient of  $\tilde{H}^*(X/N; k)$ . Because  $\mathcal{F} \subset \text{Map}(G, X) \subset \text{Map}(N, X)$ , and Theorem 2 holds for actions of  $N$ , the simple module  $M$  must be a subquotient of  $\tilde{H}^*(X; k)$ . Hence Theorem 2 holds for the  $G$ -action on  $X$ .

(ii) By (i) we may assume that  $G$  is a finite group, a circle group, or a connected simple group. If  $G = SO(2)$ , let  $Z \subset G$  be a finite subgroup containing all finite isotropy groups. Then the action of  $G/Z$  on  $X/Z$  is semifree. By (i), it suffices to prove Theorem 2 for actions of cyclic groups and for semifree circle

actions to give a proof for all circle actions. If  $G$  is finite, let  $S$  be the  $p$ -Sylow subgroup of  $G$ , where  $p = \text{char}(k)$ , and where  $S = \{1\}$  if  $p = 0$ . Then by [1] (p. 38), we have  $H^*(X/G; k) \subset H^*(X/S; k)$ . Therefore, it suffices to prove Theorem 2 for the group  $S$ . Because  $S$  is solvable, it follows from (i) that we can reduce the problem to finite groups of prime order.

*Proof of Theorem 2 for  $G$  connected simple.*

We shall construct a compact  $G$ -space  $Z$  such that for each closed subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  the orbit mapping  $Z \rightarrow Z/H$  induces an isomorphism

$$H^*(Z/H; \mathbf{Z}) \xrightarrow{\cong} H^*(Z; \mathbf{Z}).$$

$Z$  is a compact  $G$ -CW complex in the sense of Matumoto [7], and  $G$  has no fixed points in  $Z$ . We construct  $Z$  by using,

**THEOREM (Floyd-Hsiang [3, 5])** *Each simple connected compact Lie group  $G$  admits a real linear representation without one-dimensional direct summands such that the unit sphere admits an equivariant self-mapping of degree 0.*

Let  $S$  be the unit sphere, and  $n : S \rightarrow S$  an equivariant self-mapping of degree 0. Let  $Z = T(n)$  be the mapping torus of  $n$ , that is the space obtained from  $S \times [0, 1]$  by identifying  $(x, 1)$  with  $(n(x), 0)$  for  $x \in S$ . Let  $\pi : T(n) \rightarrow S^1$  be the projection on the second factor where  $S^1 = [0, 1]/\{0, 1\}$ .  $T(n)$  is a  $G$ -CW complex because  $n$  is constructed by extending a piecewise linear map of a fundamental domain into the fixed point set of a principal isotropy group, where the simplicial structure is compatible with the orbit type stratification. (This is actually done for an action of some  $SO(2r+1)$  on  $S$ , and the action is restricted to  $G$  by a representation of  $G$  of degree  $2r+1$ . This construction is found in [3, 5] and with more details in [11].)  $T(n)$  is a  $G$ -space in a natural way such that the fibres  $\pi^{-1}(z)$ ,  $z \in S^1$ , are canonically  $G$ -homeomorphic to  $S$ . Since  $n$  is nullhomotopic, it follows that  $\pi$  is a homotopy equivalence, and hence that the mapping cone  $C(\pi)$  of  $\pi$  is contractible. Since  $C(\pi)$  is a finite CW complex, the Conner conjecture, proved by Oliver, implies that  $H^*(C(\pi)/H; \mathbf{Z}) = \mathbf{Z}$  for each closed subgroup  $H$  of  $G$ . Clearly  $C(\pi)/H$  is the mapping cone of  $T(n)/H \rightarrow S^1$ , and hence

$$H^*(T(n)/H; \mathbf{Z}) \simeq H^*(S^1; \mathbf{Z}) \simeq H^*(T(n); \mathbf{Z}).$$

The  $G$ -CW structure on  $Z$  defines a finite cell complex structure on  $Z/G$  ([7]).

For each cell  $c$  of  $Z/G$ , choose  $x \in Z$  such that  $G(x)$  is in the interior of  $c$ , and set  $G_c = G_x$ . The cellular system  $(G_c)$  will be used in the Borel construction. Given two  $G$ -spaces  $X$  and  $Z$ , we consider  $Z \times X$  as a  $G$ -space with the diagonal (joint) action, and there are projections of orbit spaces,

$$pr_1 : (Z \times X)/G \rightarrow Z/G, \quad pr_2 : (Z \times X)/G \rightarrow X/G.$$

The fibres of  $pr_1$  and  $pr_2$  are, for  $x \in X, z \in Z$ ,

$$pr_1^{-1}(G(z)) = (G(z) \times X)/G = X/G_z$$

and

$$pr_2^{-1}(G(x)) = (Z \times G(x))/G = Z/G_x.$$

We apply the Leray spectral sequence to the mappings  $pr_2$  and  $p_2$  of the following commutative diagram where the vertical arrows are induced by  $\pi$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} Z/G_x & \rightarrow & (Z \times X)/G & \xrightarrow{pr_2} & X/G \\ \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow & & \downarrow 1 \\ S^1 & \rightarrow & S^1 \times (X/G) & \xrightarrow{p_2} & X/G \end{array}$$

Here  $pr_2$  and  $p_2$  are proper mappings. Since  $\pi$  induces cohomology isomorphisms of the fibres, we have

$$H^*(S^1) \otimes H^*(X/G) \cong H^*((Z \times X)/G)$$

for any coefficient ring. This clearly is an isomorphism of  $\mathcal{F}$ -modules. For the mapping

$$pr_1 : (Z \times X)/G \rightarrow Z/G$$

we obtain a spectral sequence defined by the skeleton filtration of the cell complex  $Z/G$ , with

$$E_1 = C_{\text{cell}}^*(Z/G; \mathcal{H}^*(X/G_c))$$

and converging to  $H^*((Z \times X)/G) \simeq H^*(S^1) \otimes H^*(X/G)$ . For reduced cohomology, there is the spectral sequence  $\tilde{E}$  with  $\tilde{E}_1 = C_{\text{cell}}^*(Z/G; \tilde{\mathcal{H}}^*(X/G_c; k))$  converging to  $H^*(S^1) \otimes \tilde{H}^*(X/G; k)$ . This is a spectral sequence of  $\mathcal{F}$ -modules. A simple subquotient of the  $\mathcal{F}$ -module  $\tilde{H}^*(X/G; k)$  must be a simple subquotient of  $\tilde{E}_1$  and hence of some  $\tilde{H}^*(X/G_c; k)$ . Because  $Z$  is without fixed points,  $G_c < G$  for each  $c$ . By induction on  $\dim G$ , we may assume that Theorem 2 holds for actions of  $G_c$ . Hence each simple subquotient of  $\tilde{H}^*(X/G_c; k)$  is a subquotient of  $\tilde{H}^*(X; k)$ , and this proves Theorem 2 for the given action of  $G$ . The proof for a closed pair  $(X, Y)$  of  $G$ -spaces is similar, using a spectral sequence converging to

$$H^*(S^1) \otimes H^*(X/G, Y/G; k)$$

with

$$E_1 = C_{\text{cell}}^*(Z/G; \mathcal{H}^*(X/G_c, Y/G_c; k)).$$

*Proof of Theorem 2 for  $G = \mathbf{Z}/p$  and  $G = S^1$ .*

By Lemma 2, we may assume that  $G$  is acting semifreely. Let  $X_G$  be the Borel space of the  $G$ -action; it is the total space of a fibre bundle  $X \rightarrow X_G \rightarrow B_G$  where  $B_G$  is the classifying space of principal  $G$ -bundles. We set  $H_G^*(X) = H^*(X_G)$  and refer to [1, 6, 9] for the basic properties of this functor.

**PROPOSITION 1.** *Let  $G$  be a compact Lie group acting semifreely on a space  $X$  with fixed point set  $F$ . Then there is a long exact Mayer-Vietoris sequence of the form*

$$\dots \xrightarrow{\delta} H^q(X/G) \rightarrow H^q(F) \oplus H_G^q(X) \rightarrow H_G^q(F) \xrightarrow{\delta} \dots$$

*Proof.* Because the action is semifree and  $X$  is paracompact, there is an isomorphism

$$H^*(X/G, F) \rightarrow H_G^*(X, F)$$

induced by the projection  $\pi: X_G \rightarrow X/G$ , for any coefficient group.  $\pi$  induces, with its restriction to  $F_G$ , a homomorphism of long exact cohomology sequences,

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \dots & \xrightarrow{\delta} & H_G^*(X, F) & \rightarrow & H_G^*(X) & \rightarrow & H_G^*(F) \xrightarrow{\delta} \dots \\
 (*) & & \uparrow \pi^* & & \uparrow \pi^* & & \uparrow \pi^* \\
 \dots & \xrightarrow{\delta} & H^*(X/G, F) & \rightarrow & H^*(X/G) & \rightarrow & H^*(F) \xrightarrow{\delta} \dots
 \end{array}$$

The Mayer-Vietoris sequence is deduced from (\*) by a standard argument, see p. 3 of [4]. Let  $P$  be a one-point space with its unique  $G$ -action. We set  $\tilde{H}_G^*(X) = \text{coker}(H_G^*(P) \rightarrow H_G^*(X))$ . There is then a reduced Mayer-Vietoris sequence if  $F \neq \emptyset$ ,

$$(RMV) \cdots \xrightarrow{\delta} \tilde{H}^*(X/G) \rightarrow \tilde{H}^*(F) \oplus \tilde{H}_G^*(X) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_G^*(F) \xrightarrow{\delta} \cdots$$

LEMMA 3. Let  $G = \mathbf{Z}/p$  or  $S^1$  be acting semifreely on  $X$  with fixed point set  $F \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a monoid of equivariant self-mappings of  $X$ . Then every simple subquotient of any of the three  $\mathcal{F}$ -modules  $\tilde{H}_G^*(X; k)$ ,  $\tilde{H}_G^*(F; k)$ , and  $\tilde{H}^*(F; k)$  is a subquotient of the  $\mathcal{F}$ -module  $\tilde{H}^*(X; k)$ .

Proof. If  $k$  is of characteristic  $p$ , then  $G = \mathbf{Z}/p$  or  $S^1$ . Because  $\tilde{H}_G^*(F; k) = \tilde{H}^*(F; k) \otimes H^*(B_G; k)$  and the restriction homomorphism  $\tilde{H}_G^*(X; k) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_G^*(F; k)$  is surjective in high degrees, it follows that every simple subquotient of the  $\mathcal{F}$ -modules  $\tilde{H}^*(F; k)$  and  $\tilde{H}_G^*(F; k)$  is a subquotient of  $\tilde{H}_G^*(X; k)$ . The fibre bundle  $X \rightarrow X_G \rightarrow B_G$  gives a spectral sequence converging to  $\tilde{H}_G^*(X; k)$  with

$$E_1 = C_{\text{cell}}^*(B_G; \tilde{\mathcal{H}}^*(X; k)).$$

Hence every simple subquotient of the  $\mathcal{F}$ -module  $\tilde{H}_G^*(X; k)$  is a simple subquotient of the  $\mathcal{F}$ -module  $\tilde{H}^*(X; k)$ .

COROLLARY 1. If  $F \neq \emptyset$ , then Theorem 2 holds for  $G = \mathbf{Z}/p, S^1$ .

Proof. The reduced Mayer-Vietoris sequence (RMV) shows that every simple subquotient of  $\tilde{H}^*(X/G; k)$  is a subquotient of  $\tilde{H}_G^*(F; k) \oplus \tilde{H}_G^*(X; k) \oplus \tilde{H}^*(F; k)$ . By Lemma 3, it is a subquotient of the  $\mathcal{F}$ -module  $\tilde{H}^*(X; k)$ .

When  $F = \emptyset$ ,  $G = \mathbf{Z}/p$  or  $S^1$  is acting freely, and there is an isomorphism  $H^*(X/G; k) \simeq H_G^*(X; k)$ . There is the spectral sequence of the fibring  $X_G \rightarrow B_G$  with

$$\begin{aligned} E_1 &= C_{\text{cell}}^*(B_G; \mathcal{H}^*(X; k)), \\ E_2^{ab} &= H^a(\mathbf{Z}/p; H^b(X; k)) \quad \text{for } G = \mathbf{Z}/p, \text{ and} \\ E_2^{ab} &= H^a(\mathbf{CP}^\infty) \otimes H^b(X; k) \quad \text{for } G = S^1, \end{aligned}$$

and converging to  $H^*(X/G; k)$ . To prove Theorem 2 in this case, it suffices to show that every simple subquotient of the  $\mathcal{F}$ -module  $E_\infty/k$  (where  $k \subset E_\infty^{00}$  is the field of coefficients) is a subquotient of  $\tilde{H}^*(X; k)$ . Clearly, for  $r \geq 1, b > 0$ , every

simple subquotient of  $E_r^{ab}$  is a subquotient of  $H^b(X; k)$ . Hence, for  $r \geq 2$ , every simple subquotient of  $d_r(E_r)$  is a subquotient of  $H^+(X; k) = \sum_{b>0} H^b(X; k)$ . For  $a > c$ ,  $c =$  the cohomology dimension of  $X$  over  $k$ ,  $E_\infty^{a0} = 0$ . It follows that for  $a > c$ , each simple subquotient of  $E_2^{a0}$  is a subquotient of  $H^+(X; k)$ . As  $\mathcal{F}$ -modules,  $E_2^{a0} \simeq E_2^{a+2o}$  for  $a > 0$ , and hence the last statement is valid for all  $a > 0$ . It remains only the module  $E_\infty^{00}/k$  which is contained in  $\tilde{H}^0(X; k)$ , and the proof is complete for the case  $F = \emptyset$ .

The proof of Theorem 2 for a closed pair  $(X, Y)$  of  $G$ -spaces is quite similar to the proof in the absolute case with  $F \neq \emptyset$ . There is a Mayer-Vietoris sequence of a semifree group action,

$$\cdots \xrightarrow{\delta} H^*(X/G, Y/G) \rightarrow H^*(F, F \cap Y) \oplus H_G^*(X, Y) \rightarrow H_G^*(F, F \cap Y) \xrightarrow{\delta} \cdots$$

and there is a spectral sequence with

$$E_1 = C_{\text{cell}}^*(B_G; \mathcal{H}^*(X, Y; k)) \text{ converging to } H_G^*(X, Y; k).$$

This completes the proof of Theorem 2.

Next we give a proof of Theorem 3 which states that  $H^*(X/G; \mathbf{Z})$  is finitely generated when  $H^*(X; \mathbf{Z})$  is finitely generated. A preliminary result is,

**PROPOSITION 2.** *Let  $X$  be a  $G$ -space with a closed invariant subspace  $Y$ . Assume that  $X$  has finite cohomology dimension over a field  $k$ . Then if  $H^*(X, Y; k)$  is finite dimensional over  $k$ , so is  $H^*(X/G, Y/G; k)$ .*

*Proof.* The proof is basically the same as the proof of Theorem 2, but with simplifications. Lemma 2 is valid for the present proof. If  $G = \mathbf{Z}/p$  or  $S^1$  acting semifreely, the proof is a direct consequence of the Mayer-Vietoris sequence of a semifree group action and the fact that the restriction homomorphism  $H_G^*(X, Y; k) \rightarrow H_G^*(F, F \cap Y; k)$  is an isomorphism in high degrees. The exact sequence

$$\begin{aligned} \cdots \xrightarrow{\delta} H^*(X/G; Y/G; k) \rightarrow H^*(F, F \cap Y; k) \oplus H_G^*(X, Y; k) \\ \longrightarrow H_G^*(F, F \cap Y; k) \xrightarrow{\delta} \cdots \end{aligned}$$

then implies that  $H^*(X/G; Y/G; k) \rightarrow H^*(F, F \cap Y; k)$  has finite dimensional kernel and cokernel. But  $\dim_k H^*(F, F \cap Y; k) \leq \dim_k H^*(X, Y; k) < \infty$ , and it



follows that  $\dim_k H^*(X/G, Y/G; k) < \infty$ . In case  $G$  is connected simple, we use the spectral sequence of the first part of the proof of Theorem 2 with

$$E_1 = C_{\text{cell}}^*(Z/G; \mathcal{H}^*(X/G_c, Y/G_c; k))$$

and converging to  $H^*(S^1) \otimes H^*(X/G; Y/G; k)$ . By induction on  $\dim G$ , we may assume that  $\dim_k H^*(X/G_c, Y/G_c; k) < \infty$  for each cell  $c$  of  $Z/G$ . Since  $Z/G$  is a finite cell complex, it follows that  $\dim_k E_1 < \infty$ , and hence that  $\dim_k H^*(X/G, Y/G; k) < \infty$ . This completes the proof of Proposition 2.

**THEOREM 3'.** *Assume that a compact Lie group  $G$  is acting on a space  $X$  which is paracompact Hausdorff and has finite cohomology dimension (over  $\mathbf{Z}$ ). Assume that there is a finite number of conjugacy classes of isotropy groups. Let  $Y$  be a closed invariant subspace. Then if  $H^*(X, Y; \mathbf{Z})$  is finitely generated, so is  $H^*(X/G, Y/G; \mathbf{Z})$ .*

*Proof.* Again, the proof is basically the same as that of Theorem 2, with some changes for finite  $G$ . Let  $G$  be finite. Let  $q: (X, Y) \rightarrow (X/G, Y/G)$  be the orbit mapping, and let  $t: H^*(X, Y; \mathbf{Z}) \rightarrow H^*(X/G, Y/G; \mathbf{Z})$  be the transfer mapping ([1] p. 38). Then  $tq^*$  is multiplication by  $m = |G|$  in  $H^*(X/G, Y/G; \mathbf{Z})$ , and hence,  $\text{coker}(tq^*) \subset H^*(X/G, Y/G; \mathbf{Z}/m)$ . Since  $tq^*$  factors through the finitely generated group  $H^*(X, Y; \mathbf{Z})$ , it suffices to show that  $H^*(X/G, Y/G; \mathbf{Z}/m)$  is finitely generated. This is the case because, by Proposition 2,  $H^*(X/G, Y/G; \mathbf{Z}/p)$  is finitely generated for each prime  $p$ . Now let  $G$  be a circle group. We may assume that  $G$  is acting semifreely, in which case the localization theory for circle actions is valid for cohomology with arbitrary coefficient group. Hence the argument in the proof of Proposition 2 is valid with integral coefficients. To prove Theorem 3' for general  $G$ , we may assume that  $G$  is connected, and that the theorem holds for all  $H$  with  $\dim H < \dim G$ , and hence that  $G$  is a connected simple group. Using the spectral sequence converging to  $H^*(S^1) \otimes H^*(X/G, Y/G; \mathbf{Z})$ , with  $E_1 = C_{\text{cell}}^*(Z/G; \mathcal{H}^*(X/G_c, Y/G_c; \mathbf{Z}))$  where  $\dim G_c < \dim G$ , it follows that  $H^*(X/G, Y/G; \mathbf{Z})$  is finitely generated.

*Example.* There is a pair  $(X, Y)$  of  $G$ -spaces and an equivariant mapping  $f: (X, Y) \rightarrow (X, Y)$  such that a certain eigenvalue  $\neq 1$  is of multiplicity one in  $H^*(X/G, Y/G; k)$ , and of multiplicity at least two in  $H^*(X, Y; k)$ . Let  $V$  be the linear space of all real  $n$  by  $n$  symmetric matrices of trace 0, and let  $X$  be the unit sphere in  $V$ . The group  $SO(n)$  acts on  $X$  by conjugation with principal isotropy group  $H \simeq (\mathbf{Z}/2)^{n-1}$ . Let  $Y$  be the subspace consisting of all  $x \in X$  such that  $G_x$  is not principal, equivalently such that  $\dim G_x > 0$ . In the author's paper

[11] there is constructed equivariant mappings  $f_s : X \rightarrow X$  for  $0 < 2s < n$ ,  $n \geq 3$  of degrees  $\deg f_s = 1 - \binom{m}{s}$  where  $2m \leq n \leq 2m + 1$ . Those mappings generalize the mapping  $f_m$  of Floyd-Hsiang, which is of degree 0 when  $n = 2m + 1$ . The mapping  $f'_s$  in the orbit space  $\Delta = X/G$  is a self mapping of the orientable manifold-with-boundary  $\Delta$  which is a simplex of dimension  $n - 2$ . In  $H^*(\Delta, \partial\Delta; \mathbf{Z}) = \mathbf{Z}$   $f'_s$  induces multiplication by  $\deg f'_s$ , and by Theorem (2.1) of [11],  $\deg f'_s = \deg f_s = 1 - \binom{m}{s}$ . It follows that in  $\tilde{H}^*(\partial\Delta; \mathbf{Z}) \simeq \mathbf{Z}$ ,  $f'_s$  induces multiplication by  $1 - \binom{m}{s}$ . Because  $\partial\Delta = Y/G$ , Theorem 2 implies that, for each field  $k$ ,  $1 - \binom{m}{s}$  is an eigenvalue of  $(f_s | Y)^*$  in  $\tilde{H}^*(Y; k)$ . From the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \tilde{H}^*(Y; k) \xrightarrow{\delta} H^*(X, Y; k) \rightarrow \tilde{H}^*(X; k) \rightarrow 0$$

it follows that the eigenvalue  $1 - \binom{m}{s}$  has multiplicity at least two in  $H^*(X, Y; k)$ , while it has multiplicity one in  $H^*(X/G, Y/G; k) \simeq H^*(\Delta, \partial\Delta; k) \simeq k$ .

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