Benjamin Brück, work in progress w. Peter Patzt & Robin Sroka

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1. $\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z})$ is a *virtual duality group*, i.e. there are isomorphisms $H^{n^2-i}(\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{Q}) \cong H_i(\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z}), \operatorname{St}_n^{\omega} \otimes \mathbb{Q})$ where $\operatorname{St}_n^{\omega}$ is the *dualising module* (Steinberg module)

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 H^{n²-i}(Sp_{2n}(ℤ), ℚ) ≅ H_i(Sp_{2n}(ℤ), St^ω_n ⊗ℚ)
 where St^ω_n is the *dualising module* (Steinberg module)
 St^ω_n ≅ H_{n-1}(Δ_n), the top-dimensional homology the Tits building Δ_n

associated to $\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z})$.

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Understanding $\operatorname{St}_n^{\omega} \cong H_{n-1}(\Delta_n)$ as an $\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z})$ - module allows to compute high-dimensional rational cohomology of $\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z})$.

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Fact:
$$H^{n^2-i}(\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{Q}) \cong H_i(\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z}), \operatorname{St}_n^{\omega} \otimes \mathbb{Q})$$

Aim:

Obtain a presentation of $\operatorname{St}_n^{\omega} \cong H_{n-1}(\Delta_n)$ as an $\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z})$ -module.

Hope:

This presentation can be used to show that $H^{n^2-1}(\mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z}),\mathbb{Q})\cong 0$

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Why and how should this work?

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Why and how should this work?

Gunnells: St^{ω} is generated by "integral apartment classes". This implies $H^{n^2}(\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{Q}) \cong 0$

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Geometric argument.