

1138-05-323

**Hein van der Holst\*** (hvanderholst@gsu.edu), Park Place 25, Atlanta, GA 30302, and  
**Serguei Norine** and **Robin Thomas**. *On the second homology group of the configuration space of two particles on a graph.*

For a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , a 2-cycle is a bilinear form  $d : E \times E \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $d(e, f) = 0$  if  $e$  and  $f$  have a common vertex, and  $d(\cdot, e)$  and  $(e, \cdot)$  are circulations for each edge  $e$ . Examples of 2-cycles are 2-cycles coming from pairs of disjoint cycles of  $G$ . Also on each subgraph of  $G$  that is a subdivision of  $K_5$  or  $K_{3,3}$ , there are 2-cycles. It had been a conjecture that each 2-cycle can be written as a sum of these types of 2-cycles. This has recently been disproved by Barnett.

In this talk, we give a finite list of types of 2-cycles such that each 2-cycle is a sum of 2-cycles from this list. We also show that for Kuratowski-connected graphs, it suffices to have 2-cycles coming from pairs of disjoint cycles of  $G$  and 2-cycles on subgraphs of  $G$  that are subdivisions of  $K_5$  or  $K_{3,3}$ .

This provides a structure theorem for the second homology group of the configuration space of two particles on a graph. (Received February 12, 2018)