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systems at  $P$  and  $Q$ ,  $f$  is the map  $Z \rightarrow Z^{e_p+1} = w$  of the unit disc  $U \subset \mathbf{C}$  onto another copy  $W$  of it. Since  $1, Z, \dots, Z^{e_p}$  provide an  $\mathcal{O}_W$ -basis for  $f_0(Q_U)$ , the value of  $\delta$  on a local generator of  $\mathcal{L} \otimes \mathcal{L}$  is given by

$$\det(\tau(Z^{i+j})), \quad 0 \leq i, j \leq e = e_p.$$

But

$$\tau(Z^{i+j}) = Z^{i+j} (1 + \zeta^{i+j} + (\zeta^{i+j})^2 + \dots + (\zeta^{i+j})^e),$$

( $\zeta$  denoting a primitive  $(e+1)$ -st root of unity), hence

$$\begin{aligned} \tau(Z^{i+j}) &= (e+1)Z^{i+j} \quad \text{if } i+j = 0 \quad \text{or } e+1, \\ &= 0 \quad \text{otherwise.} \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\det(\tau(Z^{i+j}))$  is a (nonzero) constant multiple of  $Z^{(e+1)e} = w^e$  as asserted.

If  $f^{-1}(Q)$  consists of several points, the situation is a direct sum of those considered above, and  $\delta$  is indeed as asserted. This proves Theorem (4.1).

(4.5) *Remark.* Let the notation be as above, and let  $E(X)$  denote the topological Euler-Poincaré characteristic of  $X$ . Then, using the formula  $E(X) = \text{number of vertices} - \text{number of edges} + \text{number of faces}$  in any triangulation of  $X$ , it is easy to see that  $E(X) = rE(Y) - \deg R(Y=\mathbf{P}^1)$ . Indeed, choose any triangulation of  $Y$  which contains all the images of the ramification points of  $f$  as vertices, and lift it to a triangulation of  $X$ . Then, while  $r$  edges or faces lie over each edge or face of  $Y$ , the ramification points reduce the number of vertices over certain vertices of  $Y$ , and one gets the formula asserted. Since  $E(Y) = 2$ , (4.2) yields:

(4.6) **COROLLARY.**  $\deg K_X = -E(X) = 2g - 2$ , i.e.  $g$  is also the topological genus  $(1/2)b_1(X)$  of the compact oriented surface  $X$ .

## § 5. RIEMANN-ROCH THEOREM (FINAL FORM). SERRE DUALITY

(5.1) **(RIEMANN-ROCH THEOREM).** For any line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  on  $X$ ,

$$h^0(\mathcal{L}) - h^0(K \otimes \mathcal{L}^{-1}) = \deg \mathcal{L} - g + 1.$$

*Proof:* It is enough to prove

(5.2) for all  $\mathcal{L}$ ,  $h^0(\mathcal{L}) - h^0(K \otimes \mathcal{L}^{-1}) \geq \deg \mathcal{L} - g + 1$ . For then, replacing  $\mathcal{L}$  by  $K \otimes \mathcal{L}^{-1}$  changes only the sign of the left side, and the same is true of the right side by (4.1) (cf. [4], p. 147).

Now (5.2) is true if  $\deg \mathcal{L} > \deg K$ , for then  $h^0(K \otimes \mathcal{L}^{-1}) = 0$ , and we can use (3.5). Thus, to prove (5.2), we may assume that  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{O}(D)$  for some  $D \in \text{Div } X$ , and that (5.2) holds for  $\mathcal{L}' = \mathcal{O}(D + P_0)$ ,  $P_0 \in X$ . Now it is clear that  $h^0(\mathcal{L}') \leq h^0(\mathcal{L}) + 1$ , and similarly  $h^0(K \otimes \mathcal{L}'^{-1}) \leq h^0(K \otimes \mathcal{L}') + 1$  (cf. the proof of (3.4)). So (5.2) fails for  $\mathcal{L}$  if and only if (\*)  $h^0(\mathcal{L}') = h^0(\mathcal{L}) + 1$ , and  $h^0(K \otimes \mathcal{L}^{-1}) = h^0(K \otimes \mathcal{L}'^{-1}) + 1$ . But if (\*) holds, there exist

$$\sigma \in H^0(X, \mathcal{L}') - H^0(X, \mathcal{L})$$

and

$$\omega \in H^0(X, K \otimes \mathcal{L}^{-1}) - H^0(X, K \otimes \mathcal{L}'^{-1}),$$

and then

$$\sigma\omega = \sigma \otimes \omega \in H^0(X, K \otimes \mathcal{O}(P_0)) - H^0(X, K),$$

i.e.  $\sigma\omega$  is a meromorphic form with precisely one simple pole at  $P_0$ . But this is impossible: if  $D$  is a disc around  $P_0$  in some coordinate system centred at  $P_0$ , then  $\int_{\partial D} \sigma\omega = - \int_{\partial(X-D)} \sigma\omega = 0$  by Stokes' theorem, while  $\int_{\partial D} \sigma\omega \neq 0$  by the Residue theorem. Thus (\*) cannot hold, and (5.2) is proved, q.e.d.

(5.3) COROLLARY. For any line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  on  $X$ ,  $h^1(\mathcal{L}) = h^0(K \otimes \mathcal{L}^{-1})$ .

*Proof:* Compare (5.1) and (3.4).

(5.4) COROLLARY.  $h^0(K) = g$  and  $h^1(K) = 1$ .

Before proceeding to Serre duality, we examine the notion of residue in greater detail. Thus let  $U \subset X$  be open, and  $\omega$  a meromorphic 1-form on  $U$  with a pole at  $P \in U$ . Then, in terms of a uniformising parameter  $t$  at  $P$ ,  $\omega = f dt$  near  $P$ , with  $f$  a meromorphic function at  $P$ . The residue of  $\omega$  at  $P$  is  $\frac{1}{2\pi i}$  times the coefficient of  $1/t$  in the Laurent expansion of  $f$  in powers of  $t$ . The independence of  $\text{Res}_P(\omega)$  on the choice of  $t$  can be proved either by direct computation or by identifying it with  $1/2\pi i \int_{\gamma} \omega$ , where  $\gamma$  is a suitable curve around  $P$ . By the argument already used above (Stokes' theorem), one gets

(5.5) (RESIDUE THEOREM). *The sum of the residues of any meromorphic 1-form on  $X$  is zero.*

(5.6) COROLLARY. *Given distinct  $P, Q \in X$ , there exists a meromorphic 1-form on  $X$ , holomorphic outside  $P$  and  $Q$ , and with simple poles at  $P, Q$  of residue 1 and  $-1$  respectively.*

*Proof:* Let  $\mathcal{L} = K \otimes \mathcal{O}(P+Q)$ . Then  $\deg K \otimes \mathcal{L}^{-1} < 0$ , hence  $h^0(\mathcal{L}) = g + 1$  by (5.1), i.e. there exists  $\omega \in H^0(X, \mathcal{L}) - H^0(X, K)$ . Then it is clear that the residues of  $\omega$  at  $P$  and  $Q$  must be non-zero, while their sum is zero (by (5.5)), hence a suitable constant multiple of  $\omega$  will have the desired properties.

(5.7) PROPOSITION. *There is a canonical isomorphism  $\text{res} : H^1(X, K) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ .*

*Proof:* Pick any  $P \in X$ , and a coordinate neighbourhood  $U$  of  $P$ . Let  $\mathcal{U}$  be the covering  $\{U, X - P\}$  of  $X$ . Then, by taking residues at  $P$ , we get a map  $\text{res}_P : Z^1(\mathcal{U}, K) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ . This map is not zero, and induces a map  $H^1(\mathcal{U}, K) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  (by the residue theorem). Since  $h^1(K) = 1$ ,  $\text{res}_P : H^1(\mathcal{U}, K) \rightarrow H^1(X, K) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is in fact an isomorphism. That the map  $\text{res}_P : H^1(X, K) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is independent of the choice of  $P \in X$  is precisely the meaning of (5.6), and we get the asserted canonical isomorphism  $\text{res}$ .

(5.8) SERRE DUALITY. *For any line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  on  $X$ , the natural bilinear form*

$$\zeta : H^0(X, \mathcal{L}) \times H^1(X, K \otimes \mathcal{L}^{-1}) \rightarrow H^1(X, K) \xrightarrow{\text{res}} \mathbb{C}$$

*is nondegenerate.*

(5.9) Remark. For any covering  $\mathcal{U}$  of  $X$ , the natural map  $\mathcal{L} \times (K \otimes \mathcal{L}^{-1}) \rightarrow K$  defines an obvious pairing

$$H^0(X, \mathcal{L}) \times Z^1(\mathcal{U}, K \otimes \mathcal{L}^{-1}) \rightarrow Z^1(\mathcal{U}, K)$$

which is easily seen to induce the pairing

$$H^0(X, \mathcal{L}) \times H^1(X, K \otimes \mathcal{L}^{-1}) \rightarrow H^1(X, K)$$

figuring in (5.8).

*Proof of (5.8).* Since we already know that

$$h^0(X, \mathcal{L}) = h^1(X, K \otimes \mathcal{L}^{-1}),$$

we need only show that, if  $\sigma \in H^0(X, \mathcal{L})$  is such that  $\zeta(\sigma \otimes \gamma) = 0$  for all  $\gamma \in H^1(X, K \otimes \mathcal{L}^{-1})$ , then  $\sigma \equiv 0$ . Now choose any  $P \in X$ , and a coordinate neighbourhood  $(U, z)$  of  $P$  centred at  $P$  such that  $\mathcal{L}|_U \approx \mathcal{O}_U$ . Then the covering  $\mathfrak{U} = \{U, X - P\}$  is a Leray covering for  $\mathcal{L}, K$  and  $K \otimes \mathcal{L}^{-1}$  ((3.7)). The  $z^n dz, n \in \mathbf{Z}$ , can all be regarded as elements of  $Z^1(\mathfrak{U}, K \otimes \mathcal{L}^{-1})$ ; let  $\gamma_n$  denote their images in  $H^1(X, K \otimes \mathcal{L}^{-1})$ . Then clearly  $\rho(\sigma \otimes \gamma_n) = 0$  for all  $n$  implies that all the coefficients of the Taylor expansion of  $\sigma$  at  $P$  with respect to vanish, hence  $\sigma \equiv 0$ , q.e.d.

(5.9) SERRE DUALITY FOR VECTOR BUNDLES. *For any vector bundle  $\mathcal{V}$  on  $X$ , let  $\mathcal{V}^* = \text{Hom } \mathcal{O}_X(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{O}_X)$ . Then the natural pairing*

$$\zeta : H^0(X, \mathcal{V}) \times H^1(X, K \otimes \mathcal{V}^*) \rightarrow H^1(X, K) \xrightarrow{\text{res}} \mathbf{C}$$

*is non-degenerate.*

*Proof:* Arguing as in the proof of (5.8) we see that the map  $H^0(X, \mathcal{V}) \rightarrow (H^1(X, K \otimes \mathcal{V}^*))^*$  induced by  $\zeta$  is injective, hence  $h^0(X, \mathcal{V}) \leq h^1(X, K \otimes \mathcal{V}^*)$ . Replacing  $\mathcal{V}$  by  $K \otimes \mathcal{V}^*$ , we also get  $h^0(K \otimes \mathcal{V}^*) \leq h^1(\mathcal{V})$ . But, by induction on rank  $\mathcal{V}$ , we easily deduce from (5.3) that  $\chi(K \otimes \mathcal{V}^*) = -\chi(\mathcal{V})$ , hence  $h^0(X, \mathcal{V}) = h^1(X, K \otimes \mathcal{V}^*)$ . Thus  $\zeta$  is non-degenerate as before.

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