

4. Relative de Rham homology

Objektyp: **Chapter**

Zeitschrift: **L'Enseignement Mathématique**

Band (Jahr): **35 (1989)**

Heft 1-2: **L'ENSEIGNEMENT MATHÉMATIQUE**

PDF erstellt am: **25.07.2024**

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If we combine theorem (3.2) and the biduality theorem (2.1) we obtain what is usually known as the

(3.6) DE RHAM THEOREM. *Integration over smooth singular simplexes induces an isomorphism*

$$H^\bullet(X, \mathbf{C}) \xrightarrow{\sim} H_\infty^\bullet(X, \mathbf{C})$$

from de Rham cohomology to smooth singular cohomology.

4. RELATIVE DE RHAM HOMOLOGY

Let us start by some general remarks on the support of a compact p -chain T on a smooth n -dimensional manifold X . Since we can realize T as a section in the sheaf Ω_p^\vee the general sheaf theoretic notion of support applies: The *support* of T , $\text{Supp}(T)$ is the smallest closed subset Z of X , such that the restriction of T to $X - Z$ is zero.

(4.1) EXAMPLE. Integration over an oriented compact p -dimensional submanifold K with boundary defines a compact p -chain κ with $\text{Supp}(\kappa) = K$. From Stokes formula

$$\int_K d\omega = \int_{\partial K} \omega, \quad \omega \in \Gamma(X, \Omega^p),$$

we conclude that $\text{Supp}(b\kappa) = \partial K$.

Let us now consider the inclusion $j: U \rightarrow X$ of an open subset U of X . The induced map

$$j_*: D_p^c(U, \mathbf{C}) \rightarrow D_p^c(X, \mathbf{C}), \quad p \in \mathbf{N},$$

is injective since we may interpret j_* as "extension by zero" in the sheaf Ω_p^\vee , compare (2.5). A compact p -chain T on X belongs to the image of j_* if and only if $\text{Supp}(T) \subseteq U$. The complex $D_p^c(X, U; \mathbf{C})$ of *relative compact chains* is defined to fit into the following exact sequence

$$(4.2) \quad 0 \rightarrow D_p^c(U, \mathbf{C}) \xrightarrow{j_*} D_p^c(X, \mathbf{C}) \rightarrow D_p^c(X, U; \mathbf{C}) \rightarrow 0.$$

On this basis we can define the *relative de Rham* homology group

$$H_p(X, U; \mathbf{C}) = H_p D_p^c(X, U; \mathbf{C}), \quad p \in \mathbf{N}.$$

In more concrete terms we can describe this homology group as

$$(4.3) \quad \{Z \in D_p^c(X, \mathbf{C}) \mid \text{Supp}(bZ) \subseteq U\} \Big/ \begin{array}{l} \{bW \mid W \in D_{p+1}^c(X, \mathbf{C})\} \\ + \{Z \in D_p(X, \mathbf{C}) \mid \text{Supp}(Z) \subseteq U\} \end{array}$$

From the exact sequence (4.2) we deduce the homology sequence

$$(4.4) \quad \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow H_p^c(U, \mathbf{C}) \rightarrow H_p^c(X, \mathbf{C}) \rightarrow H_p^c(X, U; \mathbf{C}) \\ \rightarrow H_{p-1}^c(U, \mathbf{C}) \rightarrow H_{p-1}^c(X, \mathbf{C}) \rightarrow \end{array}$$

Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ denote a smooth map, U an open subset of X and V an open subset of Y containing $f(U)$. Let us notice that

$$(4.5) \quad \text{Supp}(f_*T) \subseteq f(\text{Supp}(T)), \quad T \in D_p^c(X, \mathbf{C}).$$

These remarks make it evident, that de Rham homology is a covariant functor on the category of pairs consisting of a manifold and one of its open subspaces.

(4.6) *Excision.* Let Z be a closed subset of X and Y an open subset of X containing Z . The inclusion of $V = Y - Z$ in $U = X - Z$ induces an isomorphism

$$H^c(Y, V; \mathbf{C}) \xrightarrow{\sim} H^c(X, U; \mathbf{C}).$$

Proof. Let $i: Z \rightarrow X$ denote the inclusion. From the fact that $\Omega^{\cdot \vee}$ consists of soft sheaves we deduce an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \Gamma_c(U, \Omega^{\cdot \vee}) \rightarrow \Gamma_c(X, \Omega^{\cdot \vee}) \rightarrow \Gamma_c(Z, i^*\Omega^{\cdot \vee}) \rightarrow 0$$

compare [5] III. 7.6. This allows us to make the identification

$$(4.7) \quad D^c(X, U; \mathbf{C}) \xrightarrow{\sim} \Gamma_c(Z, i^*\Omega^{\cdot \vee}), \quad Z = X - U.$$

The expression on the right hand side is unchanged, when X is replaced by Y and U by V . Q.E.D.

(4.8) *Continuity.* Let (X_α) be an outward directed open covering of the manifold X . For any open subset U of X we have that

$$\lim_{\rightarrow \alpha} H^c(X_\alpha, U \cap X_\alpha; \mathbf{C}) = H^c(X, U; \mathbf{C})$$

Proof. As a consequence of the theorem of Borel-Heine, see possibly [5] III. 5.2, we find that

$$\lim_{\rightarrow} D^c(X_\alpha, \mathbf{C}) = D^c(X, \mathbf{C})$$

and similarly with X replaced by U and X_α replaced by $U \cap X_\alpha$. Using this and the exact sequence 4.2 we get that

$$\lim_{\rightarrow} D_c^c(X_\alpha, U \cap X_\alpha; \mathbf{C}) = D_c^c(X, U; \mathbf{C})$$

from which the result follows by passing to homology. Q.E.D.

Let us also notice that in case X is the disjoint union of a family (X_α) of open subsets we have that

$$(4.9) \quad \bigoplus_{\alpha} H_c^c(X_\alpha, U \cap X_\alpha; \mathbf{C}) \xrightarrow{\sim} H_c^c(X, U; \mathbf{C}).$$

5. STOKES FORMULA

Let us consider the open subset U of the n -dimensional smooth manifold X and the resulting exact sequences

$$(5.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccccccc} \rightarrow & H_p^c(X, \mathbf{C}) & \rightarrow & H_p^c(X, U; \mathbf{C}) & \xrightarrow{b} & H_{p-1}^c(U, \mathbf{C}) & \xrightarrow{j_*} & H_{p-1}^c(X, \mathbf{C}) & \rightarrow \\ \leftarrow & H^p(X, \mathbf{C}) & \leftarrow & H^p(X, U; \mathbf{C}) & \xleftarrow{\partial} & H^{p-1}(U, \mathbf{C}) & \xleftarrow{j^*} & H^{p-1}(X, \mathbf{C}) & \leftarrow \end{array}$$

where the first is discussed in the previous section and the second is the sheaf cohomology sequence. The relative term in the second sequence is often written

$$(5.2) \quad H_Z^p(X, \mathbf{C}) = H^p(X, U; \mathbf{C}), \quad Z = X - U.$$

We can now extend the biduality theorem (2.1).

(5.3) **THEOREM.** *The cohomology sequence above is dual to the homology sequence. In particular we have a Stoke's formula*

$$\langle b\alpha, \omega \rangle = \langle \alpha, \partial\omega \rangle$$

for $\alpha \in H_p^c(X, U; \mathbf{C})$ and $\omega \in H^{p-1}(U, \mathbf{C})$.

Proof. The first sequence arises from the following short exact sequence of complexes, compare (4.2) and (4.7),

$$0 \rightarrow \Gamma_c(U, \Omega^{\bullet \vee}) \xrightarrow{j_*} \Gamma_c(X, \Omega^{\bullet \vee}) \rightarrow \Gamma_c(Z, \Omega^{\bullet \vee}) \rightarrow 0.$$

In order to calculate the second sequence we depart from the flabby resolution $\Omega^{\bullet \vee \vee}$ of \mathbf{R} established in the proof of the biduality theorem (2.1).