

110. On the Alexander-Pontrjagin Duality Theorem

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Let V be an open set in \mathbf{R}^n and let K be a compact subset of V . In [2] we proved the duality between $H^{n-p}(K, \mathbf{C})$ and $H_K^p(V, \mathbf{C}) = H^p(V \text{ mod } V-K, \mathbf{C})$, $p=0, 1, \dots, n$, under the assumption that $\dim H^{n-p}(K, \mathbf{C})$ is at most countable for $p=0, 1, \dots, n$. The purpose of this note is to show that the assumption holds unconditionally and therefore that the duality holds for any compact set K .

Theorem 1. *Let K be a compact set in \mathbf{R}^n and let F be a field. Then the dimension of the cohomology group $H^p(K, F)$ (defined as in Godement [1]) is at most countable for any p .*

Proof. Since

$$H^p(K, F) = \lim_{\rightarrow} H^p(U, F)$$

when U runs over all neighborhoods of K by Théorème 4.11.1 of [1], it suffices to show that there exists a countable fundamental system of neighborhoods of K consisting of open sets U_j such that $\dim H^p(U_j, F) < \infty$.

Clearly we can find a countable fundamental system of neighborhoods of K . Let V be a member. At each point $x \in K$, there is an open ball W_x containing x and contained in V . Choose a finite sub-covering W_i of the covering $\{W_x; x \in K\}$ and let $U = \cup W_i$. If we denote by \mathcal{W} the open covering $\{W_i\}$ of U , it follows from Leray's theorem (Théorème 5.2.4 of [1]) that $H^p(U, F)$ is isomorphic to the cohomology group $H^p(\mathcal{W}, F)$ of the covering \mathcal{W} . The latter is clearly of finite dimension. Thus there is an open set U which satisfies $K \subset U \subset V$ and $\dim H^p(U, F) < \infty$.

Now, combining Theorem 1 with Theorem 11 of [2] (cf. also Theorem 20 (ii) of [3]), we obtain the following Alexander-Pontrjagin duality theorem.

Theorem 2. *Let K and V be as in Theorem 1. Then $H^{n-p}(K, \mathbf{C})$ and $H_K^p(V, \mathbf{C})$ have the natural structure of the dual Fréchet-Schwartz space and of the Fréchet-Schwartz space, respectively, and they are the strong dual spaces of each other. More precisely there is an at most countable cardinal number b^{n-p} such that $H^{n-p}(K, \mathbf{C}) \cong \mathbf{C}^{(b^{n-p})}$ and $H_K^p(V, \mathbf{C}) \cong \mathbf{C}^{b^{n-p}}$.*

Consequently, the Jordan-Brouwer theorem (Theorem 12) of [2]

is improved as follows:

Theorem 3. *Let V , K , and b^{n-1} be as in Theorem 2. Then, the number of connected components of $V-K$ is equal to the sum of b^{n-1} and the number of connected components of V .*

References

- [1] R. Godement: *Topologie algébrique et théorie des faisceaux*. Hermann (1958).
- [2] H. Komatsu: Resolutions by hyperfunctions of sheaves of solutions of differential equations with constant coefficients. *Math. Ann.*, **176**, 77-86 (1968).
- [3] —: Projective and injective limits of weakly compact sequences of locally convex spaces. *J. Math. Soc. Japan*, **19**, 366-383 (1967).