

Info

This note [found here](#)
as a part of [a collection](#)
is written (completely with human hands) by [Rupadarshi Ray](#),
created on June 10, 2023 5:13:59 PM,
and was last modified on June 12, 2026 11:42:10 AM.

de Rham cohomology in \mathbb{R}^n

For any star-shaped subset U of \mathbb{R}^n , its de Rham cohomology are >

$$H_{dR}^k(U) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{R} & k = 0 \\ 0 & k > 0 \end{cases}$$

By

Star-shaped subsets of \mathbb{R}^n are contractible.

Take a center q of the star-shaped subset, then Id_U is homotopic to the constant map $c_q : x \in U \mapsto q$ by the obvious and natural *straight-line* homotopy:

$$H(x, t) := q + t(x - q)$$

Thus the inclusion $\{q\} \rightarrow U$ is a homotopy equivalence. ■

and

The de Rham cohomology of a contractible set U in a smooth manifold are >

$$H_{dR}^k(U) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{R} & k = 0 \\ 0 & k > 0 \end{cases}$$

By

☰ (Homotopy invariance of $H^k(\Omega^\bullet)$) Given two continuously homotopic, smooth maps

$$f, g : M \rightarrow N$$

between manifolds possibly with boundary, we can always produce a smooth homotopy between them. Two such smoothly homotopic maps induce equal homomorphisms in the cohomology of differential forms

$$f^* = g^* : \Omega^\bullet(N) \rightarrow \Omega^\bullet(M)$$

In particular, if

$$\alpha : M \rightarrow N, \beta : N \rightarrow M$$

is a smooth homotopy equivalence, then α^*, β^* induce isomorphisms in the cohomology of differential forms.

and

☰ For a point manifold $\{p\}$, the de Rham cohomology >

$$H_{dR}^k(\{p\}) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{R} & k = 0 \\ 0 & k > 0 \end{cases}$$



☰ If M is a connected smooth manifold then >

$$H_{dR}^0(M) \cong \mathbb{R}$$



- Because there are no $k = -1$ -differential forms $\text{im}(d^{k-1}) = 0$.
- $\ker(d^k) = \{f \in C^\infty(M) : df = 0\}$
 - Since M is connected, $df = 0 \iff f = \text{constant} \in \mathbb{R}$
- Thus $H_{dR}^0(M) = \ker(d^k) = \mathbb{R}$

The rest of the groups vanish because there are no $k > 0$ forms.



Current note has 0 direct children and 0 total descendants.

- [stamp](#) stamp
 - [Rf](#) subobjects of and functions on $\mathbb{R}^n, T^n, S^n, \mathbb{C}^n$
 - [forms](#) Differential forms on \mathbb{R}^n
 - [cohomology](#) de Rham cohomology in \mathbb{R}^n

And it has 1 siblings.

- [stamp](#) stamp
 - [Rf](#) subobjects of and functions on $\mathbb{R}^n, T^n, S^n, \mathbb{C}^n$
 - [forms](#) Differential forms on \mathbb{R}^n
 - [cohomology](#) de Rham cohomology in \mathbb{R}^n