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# A DUALITY RELATION FOR HARMONIC DIMENSIONS AND ITS APPLICATIONS

## BY SHIGEO SEGAWA

Consider an end  $\Omega$  in the sense of Heins [4]. Denote by  $\mathcal{P}(\Omega)$  the class of nonnegative harmonic functions on  $\Omega$  with vanishing boundary values on  $\partial\Omega$ . A nonzero function  $h \in \mathcal{P}(\Omega)$  is said to be minimal if any  $g \in \mathcal{P}(\Omega)$  dominated by h is a constant multiple of h. The cardinal number of normalized minimal functions is referred to as the harmonic dimension of  $\Omega$  ([4]) which will be denoted by dim  $\mathcal{P}(\Omega)$ .

In [4], Heins showed that there exists an end with any given integral harmonic dimension and asked whether there exist ends with infinite harmonic dimensions. Subsequently, the existence of ends  $\mathcal{Q}$  with dim  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Q})=\mathcal{A}$  (the countably infinite cardinal number) and with dim  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Q})=\mathcal{C}$  (the cardinal number of continuum) were shown by Kuramochi [6] and Constantinescu-Cornea [1], respectively.

We are particularly interested in the following criterion of Heins [4]: The harmonic dimension of  $\Omega$  is one if and only if every bounded harmonic function on  $\overline{\Omega}$  has a limit at the ideal boundary. Motivated by this criterion we consider the quotient space  $\mathcal{B}(\Omega) = HB(\overline{\Omega})/HB_0(\overline{\Omega})$  where  $HB(\overline{\Omega})$  is the linear space of bounded harmonic functions on  $\overline{\Omega}$  and  $HB_0(\overline{\Omega})$  the subspace of  $HB(\overline{\Omega})$  consisting of u such that u has the limit 0 at the ideal boundary. In terms of the dimension of the linear space  $\mathcal{B}(\Omega)$ , dim  $\mathcal{B}(\Omega)$  in notation, the above criterion may be restated as follows: dim  $\mathcal{P}(\Omega)=1$  if and only if dim  $\mathcal{B}(\Omega)=1$ . The Heins criterion in this formulation can be generalized as follows which is the main achievement of the present paper:

THEOREM 1. If either dim  $\mathscr{Q}(\Omega)$  or dim  $\mathscr{B}(\Omega)$  is finite, then dim  $\mathscr{Q}(\Omega) = \dim \mathscr{B}(\Omega)$ .

The proof will be given in no. 1.3 in a more general setting. Two applications, which may have their own interests, of Theorem 1 will be discussed in the rest. The first is concerned with a relation between harmonic dimensions and moduli conditions which, in a sense, generalizes a result in [4] p. 215. As the second application, an example of ends  $\Omega$  with dim  $\mathcal{P}(\Omega) = \mathcal{A}$  will be given.

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**1.1.** A relatively noncompact subregion  $\Omega$  of an open Riemann surface is referred to as an end ([4]) if  $\Omega$  satisfies the following conditions: (i) the relative boundary  $\partial \Omega$  consists of a finite number of analytic Jordan curves, (ii) there exist no nonconstant bounded harmonic functions on  $\mathcal{Q}$  with vanishing boundary values on  $\partial \Omega$ , (iii)  $\Omega$  has a single ideal boundary component. In this section, let  $\Omega$  be a relatively noncompact subregion satisfying the condition (i). Denote by  $\beta$  the ideal boundary of  $\Omega$ . Without loss of generality, we may assume that there exists an open Riemann surface R with the exhaustion  $\{R_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  such that  $\mathcal{Q}{=}R{-}\overline{R}_{0}.$  For  $u{\,\in\,}HB(ec{\mathcal{Q}})$ , let  $u_{n}$  be the harmonic function on  $\mathcal{Q}{\,\cap\,}R_{n}$  with boundary values  $u|_{\partial\Omega}$  on  $\partial\Omega$  and 0 on  $\partial R_n$ . Observe that  $\lim_{n\to\infty} u_n$  exists and belongs to  $HB(\bar{\Omega})$ . Set  $HB(\bar{\Omega}; \beta) = \{u \in HB(\bar{\Omega}); u = \lim_{n \to \infty} u_n\}$ . For  $v \equiv 1 \in HB(\bar{\Omega})$ , set  $e = \lim_{n \to \infty} v_n$ . Consider the linear space  $B(\Omega; \beta) = \{u/e; u \in HB(\overline{\Omega}; \beta)\}$ , its subspace  $B_0(\Omega; \beta) = \{ w \in B(\Omega; \beta) ; \lim_{p \to \beta} w(p) = 0 \}$ , and the quotient space  $\mathcal{B}(\Omega; \beta)$  $=B(\Omega;\beta)/B_0(\Omega;\beta)$ . Denote by dim  $\mathscr{B}(\Omega;\beta)$  the dimension of the linear space  $\mathcal{B}(\Omega; \beta)$ . Then we have the following duality relation (cf. [4], Hayashi [3], and Nakai [7]):

THEOREM 2. If either dim  $\mathcal{P}(\Omega)$  or dim  $\mathcal{B}(\Omega; \beta)$  is finite, then dim  $\mathcal{P}(\Omega) = \dim \mathcal{B}(\Omega; \beta)$ .

The above theorem implies Theorem 1. In fact, if  $\Omega$  satisfies the condition (ii) then  $HB(\bar{\Omega}; \beta) = HB(\bar{\Omega})$  and  $e \equiv 1$ . Hence  $B(\Omega; \beta) = HB(\bar{\Omega})$  and  $B_0(\Omega; \beta) = HB_0(\bar{\Omega})$ , and a fortiori  $\mathcal{B}(\Omega; \beta) = \mathcal{B}(\Omega)$ .

**1.2.** Consider the linear space  $\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{Q}) = \{h_1 - h_2 : h_1, h_2 \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Q})\}\$  and the bilinear functional  $(w, h) \rightarrow \langle w, h \rangle = -\int_{\partial \mathcal{Q}} w^* dh = \int_{\partial \mathcal{Q}} w(\partial h/\partial n) ds$  on  $B(\mathcal{Q}; \beta) \times \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{Q})$  where  $\partial/\partial n$  is the inner normal derivative. Set  $Q_{\mathcal{Q}} = \{\{h \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Q}); -\int_{\partial \mathcal{Q}} *dh = 1\}$ .

LEMMA 1. Every  $w \in B(\Omega; \beta)$  satisfies the following equalities:

(1) 
$$\limsup_{p \to \beta} w(p) = \sup \langle w, Q_{\Omega} \rangle, \qquad \liminf_{p \to \beta} w(p) = \inf \langle w, Q_{\Omega} \rangle.$$

Although the essence of the proof of this lemma is found in [3] and [4], we give the proof for the sake of completeness.

Given an arbitrary cluster value  $\alpha$  of w at  $\beta$  and a sequence  $\{p_n\}$  in  $\Omega$  such that  $\lim_{n\to\infty} p_n = \beta$  and  $\lim_{n\to\infty} w(p_n) = \alpha$ . Observe that

(2) 
$$u(p_n) = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\partial \Omega} u^* dg(\cdot, p_n)$$

for  $u \in HB(\overline{\Omega}; \beta)$ , where  $g(\cdot, p_n)$  is the Green's function on  $\Omega$  with pole  $p_n$ .

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Applying (2) to ew and e, we see that  $w(p_n) = -\int_{\partial\Omega} w^* d(g(\cdot, p_n)/2\pi e(p_n))$  and  $1 = -\int_{\partial\Omega} *d(g(\cdot, p_n)/2\pi e(p_n))$ . Therefore a subsequence of  $\{g(\cdot, p_n)/2\pi e(p_n)\}$  has a limiting function g, which belongs to  $Q_{\Omega}$ , and  $\alpha = -\int_{\partial\Omega} w^* dg = \langle w, g \rangle$ . Thus

$$\inf \langle w, Q_{\mathcal{Q}} \rangle \leq \liminf_{p \to \beta} w(p), \qquad \limsup_{p \to \beta} w(p) \leq \sup \langle w, Q_{\mathcal{Q}} \rangle.$$

Next, given an arbitrary  $h \in Q_{\mathcal{Q}}$  and let  $h_{mn}$  be the harmonic function on  $R_m - \overline{R}_n$  (m > n) with boundary values  $h|_{\partial R_n}$  on  $R_n$  and 0 on  $\partial R_m$ . Set  $h_n = \lim_{m \to \infty} h_{mn}$ . Observe that

(3) 
$$\left\langle \frac{u}{e}, h \right\rangle = -\int_{\partial \Omega} u^* dh = \int_{\partial R_n} u^* d(h-h_n)$$

for  $u \in HB(\overline{\Omega}; \beta)$ . Applying (3) to ew and e, we see that

$$\langle w, h \rangle = \int_{\partial R_n} e w^* d(h-h_n)$$
 and  $1 = \int_{\partial R_n} e^* d(h-h_n)$ .

Since  $h-h_n \ge 0$  on  $R-R_n$ , this implies that  $\inf_{\partial R_n} w \le \langle w, h \rangle \le \sup_{\partial R_n} w$  and a fortiori

 $\liminf_{p \to \beta} w(p) \leq \inf \langle w, Q_{\Omega} \rangle, \quad \sup \langle w, Q_{\Omega} \rangle \leq \limsup_{p \to \beta} w(p).$ 

This completes the proof.

**1.3.** Proof of Theorem 2. We first remark that the dimension of the linear space  $\mathcal{C}(\Omega)$ , dim  $\mathcal{C}(\Omega)$  in notation, coincides with dim  $\mathcal{P}(\Omega)$  if either dim  $\mathcal{C}(\Omega)$  or dim  $\mathcal{P}(\Omega)$  is finite (cf. e.g. [4]).

Consider the  $\mathcal{E}(\Omega)$ -kernel ( $B(\Omega; \beta)$ -kernel resp.)

$$\begin{split} K_1 &= \bigcap_{h \in \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{Q})} \{ w \in B(\mathcal{Q} ; \beta) ; \langle w, h \rangle = 0 \} , \\ (K_2 &= \bigcap_{w \in B(\mathcal{Q}; \beta)} \{ h \in \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{Q}) ; \langle w, h \rangle = 0 \} \text{ resp.} \end{split}$$

of the bilinear functional  $(w, h) \mapsto \langle w, h \rangle$ . By means of (1), we have that  $K_1 = B_0(\Omega; \beta)$ . Let h be in  $K_2$ . Then  $\langle w, h \rangle = \int_{\partial\Omega} w(\partial h/\partial n) ds = 0$  for any  $w \in B(\Omega; \beta)$ and hence  $\partial h/\partial n \equiv 0$  on  $\partial\Omega$ . By the fact that  $h \equiv 0$  on  $\partial\Omega$ , we conclude that  $h \equiv 0$  on  $\Omega$  and especially  $K_2 = \{0\}$ . Therefore  $\mathcal{B}(\Omega; \beta) = B(\Omega; \beta)/K_1$  and  $\mathcal{E}(\Omega) = \mathcal{E}(\Omega)/K_2$  can be considered to be subspaces of  $\mathcal{E}(\Omega)^*$  and  $\mathcal{B}(\Omega; \beta)^*$  (conjugate spaces of  $\mathcal{E}(\Omega)$  and  $\mathcal{B}(\Omega; \beta)$ ) respectively and in particular

$$\dim \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{Q}; \beta) \leq \dim \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{Q})^*, \qquad \dim \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{Q}) \leq \dim \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{Q}; \beta)^*.$$

Since finite dimensional linear spaces are isomorphic to their conjugate spaces, it follows from the above inequalities that dim  $\mathscr{B}(\Omega; \beta) = \dim \mathscr{E}(\Omega) = \dim \mathscr{P}(\Omega)$ .

**2.1.** Let  $\mathcal{Q}$  be an end. As in no. 1.1,  $\mathcal{Q}$  can be considered to be a subregion of a null boundary Riemann surface R with a *normal* exhaustion  $\{R_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  (i. e.  $R - \overline{R}_n$  has no relatively compact components) such that  $\mathcal{Q} = R - \overline{R}_0$ . Denote by  $\omega_n$  the harmonic measure of  $\partial R_{2n}$  with respect to  $A_n = R_{2n} - \overline{R}_{2n-1}$ . The modulus of  $A_n$ , mod  $A_n$  in notation, is the quantity  $2\pi/(\int_{\partial \mathcal{Q}_{2n}} {}^*d\omega_n)$ . Consider the following conditions:

(A.1) For every  $n \in N$ , there exists a unique  $N \in N$  such that  $A_n$  consists of N disjoint annuli  $A_{n1}, A_{n2}, \dots, A_{nN}$ ;

(A.2) 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mod A_n = +\infty.$$

Then we prove (cf. [4] and Kawamura [5])

**THEOREM 3.** If  $\{A_n\}$  satisfies (A.1) and (A.2), the harmonic dimension of  $\Omega$  is at most N.

**2.2.** Set  $\mu_n = \mod A_n$ . The function  $z_n = x_n + iy_n = \mu_n(\omega_n + i\omega_n^*)$  ( $\omega_n^*$  is the conjugate harmonic function of  $\omega_n$ ) maps  $\overline{A}_n$ , less suitable slits on which  $\omega_n^*$  is constant, conformally into the horizontally sliced rectangle  $\{x_n + iy_n; 0 \le x_n \le \mu_n, 0 \le y_n \le 2\pi\}$ . Consider closed curves  $l_{ni}(x_n) = \{p \in A_{ni}; \operatorname{Re} z_n(p) = x_n\}$   $(i=1, \dots, N; 0 \le x_n \le \mu_n)$  and set  $l_n(x_n) = \bigcup_{i=1}^N l_{ni}(x_n)$ . Given arbitrary N+1 functions  $u_1, \dots, u_{N+1}$  in  $HB(\overline{\Omega})$ . Denote by  $\partial_{nij}(x_n)$  the oscillation of  $u_j$  on  $l_{ni}(x_n)$  and set

$$\delta_n(x_n) = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^{N+1} \delta_{nij}(x_n) \, .$$

We assume that  $\delta_n(x_n)$  attains its minimum when  $x_n = t_n$ . Then we have

$$\delta_n = \delta_n(t_n) \leq \sum_{j=1}^{N+1} \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial y_n} \right| dy_n \qquad (0 \leq x_n \leq \mu_n) \,.$$

The Schwarz inequality yields

$$\delta_n^2 \leq 2\pi (N+1) \sum_{j=1}^{N+1} \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial y_n} \right|^2 dy_n.$$

Integrating both sides of the above from 0 to  $\mu_n$  with respect to  $dx_n$ , we obtain

$$\delta_n^2 \mu_n \leq 2\pi (N+1) \sum_{j=1}^{N+1} \int_0^{\mu_n} \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial y_n} \right|^2 dx_n dy_n \leq 2\pi (N+1) \sum_{j=1}^{N+1} D_{A_n}(u_j),$$

where  $D_{A_n}(u_j)$  denotes the Dirichlet integral of  $u_j$  on  $A_n$ . Since each  $u_j$  has the finite Dirichlet integral on  $\Omega$ , we see that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \tilde{\partial}_n^2 \mu_n$  converges. By means of (A.2), this yields

(4) 
$$\liminf_{n \to \infty} \delta_n = 0.$$

**2.3.** By virtue of Theorem 1, we have only to show that there exists a nontrivial linear combination  $\sum_{j=1}^{N+1} c_j u_j$   $(c_j \in \mathbf{R})$  belonging to  $HB_0(\overline{\mathcal{Q}})$ , i.e.

dim  $\mathcal{B}(\Omega) \leq N$ .

By (4), we can find a subsequence  $\{A_{n_k}\}$  of  $\{A_n\}$  and  $c_{ij} \in \mathbf{R}$   $(i=1, \dots, N; j=1, \dots, N+1)$  such that

(5) 
$$\lim_{k \to \infty} (\max_{p \in l_{n_k} i^{(l_{n_k})}} | u_j(p) - c_{ij} |) = 0.$$

For  $\boldsymbol{u}_{j} = (c_{1j}, \dots, c_{Nj}) \in \boldsymbol{R}^{N}$   $(j=1, \dots, N+1)$ , choose  $(\alpha_{1}, \dots, \alpha_{N+1})$   $(\neq (0, \dots, 0)) \in \boldsymbol{R}^{N+1}$  such that  $\sum_{j=1}^{N+1} \alpha_{j} \boldsymbol{u}_{j} = (0, \dots, 0)$ . Then (5) yields

$$\lim_{k\to\infty}\left(\max_{p\in l_{n_k}(t_{n_k})}\left|\sum_{j=1}^{N+1}\alpha_j u_j(p)\right|\right)=0.$$

Since  $l_n(t_n)$  separates  $l_m(t_m)$   $(m=1, \dots, n-1)$  from the ideal boundary  $\beta$ , this implies that  $\sum_{j=1}^{N+1} \alpha_j u_j \in HB_0(\overline{\Omega})$ .

**3.1.** Consider the mapping  $(m, n) \rightarrow \mu = \mu(m, n) = 2^{m-1}(2n-1)$  of  $N^2$  to N. It is clear that  $(m, n) \rightarrow \mu(m, n)$  is bijective,  $\mu(m, n) \leq \mu(m', n')$  if  $m \leq m'$  and  $n \leq n'$ , and that  $\mu(m, n) \rightarrow \infty$  if  $m \rightarrow \infty$  or  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Let  $D_{\mu}$   $(\mu = \mu(m, n) \in \mathbb{N})$  be the disk  $\{|z-3 \cdot 2^{2\mu-2}| < 2^{2\mu-2}\}$  and  $S_{\mu}$  a slit in  $D_{\mu}$ . Set

$$R_{0} = \{1 < |z| < \infty\} - \bigcup_{\mu=1}^{\infty} S_{\mu}, \qquad F_{0} = R_{0} - \bigcup_{\mu=1}^{\infty} D_{\mu}$$

and

$$R_n = \{ |z| < \infty \} - \bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} S_{\mu(m,n)}, \qquad F_n = R_n - \bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} D_{\mu(m,n)} \qquad (n \in \mathbb{N}).$$

Denote by  $g_0$  the Green's function on  $R_0$  and by  $\omega$  the bounded harmonic function on  $R_0$  with boundary values 1 on |z|=1 and -1 on  $\bigcup_{\mu=1}^{\infty} S_{\mu}$ . By choosing  $S_{\mu}$  sufficiently small we may assume that

(S.1) 
$$\limsup_{z \to \infty} \omega(z) > 0$$

(S.2) 
$$\liminf_{z \to \infty, z \in F_0} g_0(\cdot, z) > 0.$$

Join  $R_0$  and  $R_n$  crosswise along  $S_{\mu(m,n)}$  for every  $(m, n) \in N^2$ . The resulting surface  $\Omega$  is a covering surface of  $\{|z| < \infty\}$  with the relative boundary  $\partial \Omega = \{z \in R_0; |z| = 1\}$ . It is easily checked that  $\Omega$  is an end. We will prove that the harmonic dimension of  $\Omega$  is  $\mathcal{A}$ .

**3.2.** Let  $\pi$  be the projection of  $\Omega$ . For an arbitrarily given  $N \in N$ , set  $\Omega_N = \Omega - \bigcup_{n=1}^N (R_n \cap \pi^{-1}(\{|z| \le 1\}))$  and  $C_n = R_n \cap \pi^{-1}(\{|z| = 1\})$   $(n = 1, \dots, N)$ . Then  $\Omega_N$  is a subend of  $\Omega$  with the relative boundary  $\partial \Omega_N = \partial \Omega \cup (\bigcup_{n=1}^N C_n)$ . Consider harmonic measures  $w_n$   $(n=1, \dots, N)$  of  $C_n$  with respect to  $\Omega_N$  and an arbitrary nontrivial linear combination  $w = \sum_{n=1}^N a_n w_n$  of  $\{w_1, \dots, w_N\}$ . Choose

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 $a_i$  such that  $|a_i| = \max\{|a_1|, \dots, |a_N|\}(\neq 0)$ . Observe that  $w/a_i = 1$  on  $C_i$  and  $w/a_i \ge -1$  on  $R_i \cap \pi^{-1}(\{|z| < 1\})$ . By means of (S.1) this implies that  $\limsup_{p \to \beta} w(p)/a_i > 0$ , i.e.  $w \in HB_0(\overline{\mathcal{Q}}_N)$ . Hence, from Theorem 1, it follows that  $\dim \mathscr{Q}(\mathcal{Q}_N) \ge N$ . Since  $\dim \mathscr{Q}(\mathcal{Q}) = \dim \mathscr{Q}(\mathcal{Q}_N)$  (cf. [4]) and N is arbitrary, we conclude that  $\dim \mathscr{Q}(\mathcal{Q}) \ge \mathcal{A}$ .

**3.3.** Consider the Martin compactification  $\Omega^* = \Gamma \cup \overline{\Omega}$  of  $\overline{\Omega}$  where  $\Gamma$  is the *Martin ideal boundary* of  $\overline{\Omega}$ . Denote by  $\Delta$  the set of minimal points in  $\Gamma$ . In the theory of Martin compactification, it is well-known that dim  $\mathcal{P}(\Omega)$  coincides with  $\sharp \Delta$  (the cardinal number of  $\Delta$ ). Let  $\{\zeta_i\}$  be a sequence in  $\Omega$  such that  $\{\zeta_i\}$  converges to  $q \in \Delta$ . Then  $k_q = \lim_{i \to \infty} g(\cdot, \zeta_i)$  is in  $\mathcal{P}(\Omega)$  and minimal, where g is the Green's function on  $\Omega$ . For a closed set F in  $\Omega$ , let

$$(k_q)_F(\zeta) = \inf_{v \in \mathcal{O}(k_q, F)} v(\zeta)$$
,

where  $\Phi(k_q, F)$  is the class of nonnegative superharmonic functions v on  $\Omega$  such that  $v \ge k_q$  on F except for a polar set.

**LEMMA 2.** If U is a neighborhood of q, then  $(k_q)_{\Omega-U}$  is a potential and moreover there exists a unique relatively noncompact component G of  $U \cap \Omega$  such that  $(k_q)_{\Omega-U} < k_q$  on G.

For the proof we refer to e.g. Constantinescu-Cornea [2].

**3.4.** We are in the stage to show that dim  $\mathscr{P}(\Omega)$  does not exceed  $\mathscr{A}$ .

Consider two sequences  $\{\zeta_i^{(j)}\}$  (j=1,2) in  $F_0$   $(\Box \Omega)$  such that  $\lim_{i\to\infty}\zeta_i^{(j)}=\beta$ (i. e.  $\lim_{i\to\infty}\zeta_i^{(j)}=\infty$  in  $\{|z|<\infty\}$ ). Choosing subsequences, if necessary, we may assume that there exist limiting functions  $k_j=\lim_{i\to\infty}g(\cdot,\zeta_i^{(j)})$  and  $h_j=\lim_{i\to\infty}g_0(\cdot,\zeta_i^{(j)})$  (j=1,2). From (S.2), it follows that  $h_1/h_2$  is constant (cf. e.g. [2]). Setting  $h_j\equiv 0$  on  $\Omega-R_0$ ,  $h_j$  are subharmonic and  $0\leq h_j\leq k_j$  on  $\Omega$ . Hence there exist least harmonic majorants  $\hat{h}_j$  of  $h_j$ . If  $k_j$  are minimal, then  $k_1/k_2$ is constant since  $0\leq \hat{h}_j\leq k_j$  and  $\hat{h}_1/\hat{h}_2$  is constant. This implies that  $Cl(F_0)\cap\Delta$ consists of at most a single point, where Cl denotes the closure in  $\Omega^*$ . The similar argument yields that  $\sharp(Cl(F_n)\cap\Delta)\leq 1$  for every  $n\in N$ . Consequently we see that

(6) 
$$\# (\bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} (Cl(F_n) \cap \varDelta)) \leq \mathcal{A}.$$

Next, suppose that there exists a  $q \in \mathcal{I} - \mathcal{I}_1$  where  $\mathcal{I}_1 = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} (Cl(F_n) \cap \mathcal{I})$ . Let  $\{\zeta_i\}$   $(\Box \mathcal{Q})$  be a sequence converging to q and  $k_q = \lim_{t \to \infty} g(\cdot, \zeta_t)$ . Since  $\mathcal{Q}^* - F_0$  is a neighborhood of q, by Lemma 2, there exists a unique component G of  $\mathcal{Q} - F_0$  such that  $(k_q)_{F_0} < k_q$  on G. Set

$$G_n = \overline{R}_n \cup (R_0 \cap \pi^{-1}(\bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} D_{\mu(m,n)})) \qquad (n \in \mathbb{N}).$$

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Observe that each  $G_n$  is a subregion of  $\Omega - F_0$ ,  $G_n \cap G_{n'} = \phi$  if  $n \neq n'$ , and that  $\Omega - F_0 = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} G_n$ . Hence  $G = G_n$  for an  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $\Omega^* - (F_0 \cup F_n)$  is also a neighborhood of q, by Lemma 2, there exists a unique component G' of  $\Omega - (F_0 \cup F_n)$  such that  $(k_q)_{F_0 \cup F_n} < k_q$  on G'. From the fact that  $(k_q)_{F_0} \leq (k_q)_{F_0 \cup F_n}$ , it follows that G' is a component of  $G - F_n = G_n - F_n$ . Observe that  $G_n - F_n = (\overline{R}_n \cup R_0) \cap \pi^{-1}(\bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} D_{\mu(m,n)})$  is a union of mutually disjoint relatively compact subregions. This contradicts the relative noncompactness of G'. Thus  $\Delta = \Delta_1$  and therefore, by virtue of (6), we conclude that dim  $\mathcal{P}(\Omega) = \#\Delta = \#\Delta_1 \leq \mathcal{A}$ .

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