

## The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

## **Department of Mathematics**

## **PhD THESIS EXAMINATION**

# On the cohomology of compact symmetric spaces of exceptional types

By

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#### <u>ABSTRACT</u>

Computing the comhomology of symmetric spaces G/K of compact types is important. Here G is a simply-connected simple compact real Lie group and K is a compact subgroup which is stable under a Cartan involution  $\Theta$  of G. By a well-known result of compact symmetric spaces, the De Rham cohomology of such kind of symmetric spaces are equivalent to the invariant space  $(\Lambda p)^k$  with k and p the 1 and -1 eigen value spaces of a Cartan involution  $\theta$  in the Lie algebra level. In this thesis I develop a totally algebraic method to compute the 12 real forms of the exceptional case. And I also summarize some results for other types.

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