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SEMI-RIGID CR STRUCTURES
AND HOLOMORPHIC EXTENDABILITY

by

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Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{2n+\ell}$ be an open set, $0 \in \Omega$, and $\mathbb{C}T\Omega$, the complexified tangent bundle to Ω . Let V be a subbundle of $\mathbb{C}T\Omega$ such $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} V_{\omega} = n$, $\forall \omega \in \Omega$. We denote by \mathbb{L} the space of smooth sections of V defined in Ω . We shall assume the Frobenius condition, i.e.

$$[V, V] \subset V,$$

and also

$$V_{\omega} \cap \overline{V_{\omega}} = \{0\}, \quad \forall \omega \in \Omega.$$

With the above assumptions we say that Ω is equipped with an abstract CR structure of codimension ℓ .

If in addition for every $\omega_0 \in \Omega$, there exist an open set $\Omega' \subset \Omega$, $\omega_0 \in \Omega'$, and smooth functions in Ω' , with independent differentials, $Z_1, \dots, Z_{n+\ell}$, satisfying

$$L Z_j = 0, \quad j=1, \dots, n+\ell, \quad \forall L \in \mathbb{L},$$

we say that V (or \mathbb{L}) is locally integrable. We denote by $M \subset \mathbb{C}^{n+\ell}$ the image of Ω' . It is a (germ of a) generic CR manifold of codimension ℓ .

We shall say that V is of finite type in Ω at ω (see Kohn [9] or Bloom-Graham [5]) if for any $\xi \in T_{\omega}^* \Omega \setminus \{0\}$ there exists a commutator

$$(1) \quad L^{(k)} = [L_i^{(-)}, [L_2^{(-)}, \dots, [L_{k-1}^{(-)}, L_k^{(-)}] \dots]] \quad ,$$

each $L_j^{(-)} \in \mathbb{L} \otimes \bar{\mathbb{L}}$, such that the symbol $\sigma(L^{(k)})$ satisfies

$$(2) \quad \sigma(L^{(k)})(\omega, \xi) \neq 0 \quad .$$

Let $m(\omega, \xi)$ be the smallest integer k such that (2) is satisfied. The Hörmander numbers at ω are the r distinct integers $2 \leq m_1 < m_2 < \dots < m_r$ obtained as $m(\omega, \xi)$ for some $\xi \in T_\omega^* \Omega \setminus \{0\}$, ξ characteristic for \mathbb{L} .

We shall say that a CR structure V of finite type is semi-rigid at ω_0 if for all $\xi \in T_{\omega_0}^* \Omega$

$$\sigma([L^{(k)}, L^{(p)}])(\omega_0, \xi) = 0$$

for all commutators $L^{(k)}, L^{(p)}$ of the form (1) with $k, p \geq 2$ and $k+p \leq m(\omega_0, \xi)$.

The associated embedded generic CR manifold M will also be said to be semi-rigid.

The following result gives local normal forms for such manifolds.

Theorem 1: Let M be a generic CR manifold of codimension ℓ in $\mathbb{C}^{n+\ell}$.

If M is of finite type at the origin, there are holomorphic coordinates around the origin, $(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^{n+\ell}$ such that on M

$$z_j = x_j + i y_j \quad 1 \leq j \leq n \quad ,$$

$$w_k = s_k + i [p_{m_k}(z, \bar{z}, s_1, \dots, s_{k-1}) + O(m_k + 1)] \quad 1 \leq k \leq r \quad ,$$

where p_{m_k} is homogeneous of weight m_k and $O(m_k + 1)$ is of weight $m_k + 1$. Here the $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ are given weight 1, while $s_j \in \mathbb{R}^{\ell_j}$ is given weight m_j , and $\ell_1 + \dots + \ell_r = \ell$. Furthermore, the p_{m_k} may be chosen independent of all the s_j if and only if M is semi-rigid.

The first statement of Theorem 1 is in Bloom-Graham [5]; our proof, as well as the proof of the second statement, uses methods of Helffer-Nourrigat [7].

The following are examples of semi-rigid CR manifolds :

- 1 - Any hypersurface in \mathbb{C}^{n+1} of finite type.
- 2 - Any generic CR manifold of finite type in $\mathbb{C}^{n+\ell}$ with Hörmander's numbers $m_j \leq 3$, for all j .
- 3 - Any generic CR manifold of finite type such that there exists $m \geq 2$ satisfying $m \leq m_j \leq m+1$ for all j .

A function h on M is said to be CR if it satisfies the equations

$$Lh = 0 \quad \text{for all } L \in \mathbb{L} .$$

We are concerned with the holomorphic extendability of CR functions across a point in M .

In order to state our main result we shall define the following sets of extendability. If a generic CR manifold in $\mathbb{C}^{n+\ell}$ is defined by

$$(4) \quad \text{Im } w = \Phi(z, \bar{z}, \text{Re } w), \quad z \in \mathbb{C}^n, \quad w \in \mathbb{C}^\ell,$$

$\Phi(0) = 0$, $\Phi'(0) = 0$, and if Γ is a strictly convex open cone in $\mathbb{R}^\ell \setminus \{0\}$, a wedge with edge M is defined by

$$(5) \quad W_\Gamma = \{(z, w) \in O \subset \mathbb{C}^{n+\ell} : \text{Im } w - \Phi(z, \bar{z}, \text{Re } w) \in \Gamma\},$$

where O is a neighborhood of 0 .

Theorem 2. Let M be a semi-rigid CR manifold of finite type at the origin.

Then any CR function on M extends holomorphically to a wedge of the form (5).

When the CR manifold M defined by (4) is real analytic, we have the following nonextendability result :

Theorem 3. Assume that M is a generic real analytic CR manifold in $\mathbb{C}^{n+\ell}$ which is not of finite type at the origin. Then there exists a CR function defined near 0 on M which does not extend to any wedge.

Many extendability results have been proved since the classical work of H. Lewy [8]. Some recent ones are [3], [6], [4], [11]. A weaker version of Theorem 2 is proved in [2].

As in [2], the proof of Theorem 2 is based on the use of a generalized FBI transform (see Sjöstrand [10] and [1]) of the form

$$\int e^{i(w-s-i\Phi(z, \bar{z}, s)) \cdot \sigma - |\sigma| (w-s-i\Phi(z, \bar{z}, s))^2} \chi(s) h(x, y, s) \det(I+i\Phi_s(z, \bar{z}, s)) ds.$$

Details of proofs will appear elsewhere.

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