

# COMPLEX ANALYSIS

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## 1 Textbook

As textbook we use for this course the first 4 chapters of the book by Lars Hörmander:  
An introduction to Complex Analysis in Several Variables (Third Edition)  
Elsevier (Amsterdam)

## 2 Prerequisites of the course

All students, who want to participate successfully in this course should be well acquainted with Calculus in one and several real variables, in particular, with the ideas around "Stokes theorem" and differential forms. As a preparation we recommend the book by Klaus Jähnig, Vector Analysis (Springer) or (on a much higher level) Serge Lang: Real Analysis (Addison-Wesley Publ. Company).

3 Prerequisites from Complex Analysis in One complex variable, a first quick crash course

Complex Analysis in One Complex Variable is the basis of Complex Analysis. It is the easy case. In order to understand the special features of Complex Analysis in Several Variables, we will have to present at first the basics of the theory in one Complex Variable, i.e. the case  $n = 1$ .

We will touch the following topics:

- \_  $C^1$  functions are "holomorphic"
- \_ The open mapping theorem and the
- \_ The identity theorem
- \_ The Cauchy theory
- \_ Subharmonic functions

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## 4 Cauchy integrals on polydiscs

Polydiscs are direct products of discs. The theory of holomorphic functions on them can mostly be understood by dealing with one variable after the other. The main topics of this first main section of the course arise from considering

1. Cauchy integrals on polydiscs and the resulting Cauchy inequalities and by studying

2. the inhomogeneous Cauchy-Riemann equations in a polydisc

This leads in particular to the

Theorem 4.1 (The Poincaré lemma for the  $\bar{\partial}$ -operator on polydiscs) Let  $D$  be an open polydisc and let  $f \in C^1(p; q+1)(D)$  satisfy the condition  $\bar{\partial}f = 0$ . If  $D_0$  is relatively compact in  $D$  we can find a  $u \in C^1(p; q)(D_0)$  with  $\bar{\partial}u = f$  in  $D_0$ .

A side-aspect of this will lead us to considering power series and Reinhardt domains.

## 5 The Cartan-Thullen theory of holomorphic convexity

With this chapter we enter into the heart of Complex Analysis showing us the first very specific features of the theory in several ( $n > 1$ ) complex variables.

We come to

domains of holomorphy: their interior and exterior characteristic properties.

The notion of hulls and their properties. We discover the basic properties of plurisubharmonicity and pseudoconvexity.

This leads to the

Theorem 5.1 (First main theorem: Cartan-Thullen) Domains of holomorphy are pseudoconvex.

For a long time it has been an outstanding problem of Complex Analysis, which even today is still unsolved in some of its tricky versions, although it has been solved by K. Oka and H. Grauert in the form, how we can ask it at the moment:

Question 5.2 (The Levi Problem) Is any pseudoconvex domain in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  a domain of holomorphy?

It will be the major goal of this course to work out a solution to the Levi problem by means of the  $L^2$ -theory of the  $\bar{\partial}$ -operator.

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6 A first consideration of Runge domains in  $\mathbb{C}^n$

Domains of holomorphy  $D$  with the property that the set of polynomials on them are dense in their algebra of holomorphic functions enjoy a particularly strong global convexity condition. They are much more easy to deal with under the point of view of the Levi problem than arbitrary pseudoconvex domains in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . In particular the equations  $\bar{\partial}u = f$  can be globally and much more easily solved on them. This will be done in this section.

7  $L^2$ -estimates and existence theorems for the  $\bar{\partial}$  operator

7.1 Linear, unbounded, densely defined operators between Hilbert spaces

Definition 7.1 1. The Hilbert spaces  $L^2$

$(p; q)(; \cdot)$  and their norms and  $L^2$

$(p; q)(; \text{loc})$

2. The spaces  $D(p; q)(\cdot)$  as dense subspaces

Definition 7.2 1. Linear, closed, densely defined operators  $T : H_1 \rightarrow H_2$  between Hilbert spaces

2. Their Ranges and Domains

3. The Hilbert space adjoint  $T^*$  of  $T : H_1 \rightarrow H_2$

Lemma 7.3 The identity  $T^{**} = T$  and other relations between  $T$  and  $T^*$

We refer all readers who want to study this tool of functional analysis more deeply to the excellent presentation in the book "Functional Analysis" by Walter Rudin (McGraw-Hill Book Company, New York 1973)

An abstract, basic, functional-analytic existence theorem as a consequence of the Hahn-Banach theorem:

Lemma 7.4  $F = RF$  if and only if

$\|f\|_{F \setminus D(T^*)} \leq C \|Tf\|$  (7.1)

From this we obtain a kind of dual statement, which will be the basis for proving approximation theorems

Lemma 7.5 Let  $T : H_1 \rightarrow H_2$  be a closed densely defined operator and  $F \subset H_2$  a closed subspace with  $RT \subset F$ . Let (7.1) hold true. Then for every  $v \in H_2$ ,  $v \in \ker(T^*)$  one can find  $f \in D(T^*)$  such that  $T^*f = v$  and

$\|f\|_{H_1} \leq C \|v\|_{H_2}$  (7.2)

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In order to be able to apply these abstract lemmas in a more concrete situation, we need criteria for the density of  $D(p; q+1)$  in certain subspaces with respect to the graph norm given by

$\|f\|_{\text{graph}}^2 = \|Tf\|_{H_2}^2 + \|f\|_{H_1}^2$

The exact situation will be described in

Lemma 7.6 Density of  $D(p; q+1)(\cdot)$  with respect to the graph norm

Another important tool is the study of

Lemma 7.7 (existence of smoothings)

7.2 A first existence theorem for  $\bar{\partial}$  on pseudoconvex open sets in  $\mathbb{C}^n$

We are now able by some rather careful analysis to solve the  $\bar{\partial}$ -equations in the sense of distribution theory on any open pseudoconvex set in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Our main theorem will be

Theorem 7.8 (Solving  $\bar{\partial}u = f$  for all  $(p; q + 1)$  forms) Let  $\Omega$  be a pseudoconvex open set in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Then the equation  $\bar{\partial}u = f$  has (in the sense of distribution theory) a solution  $u \in L^2$

$(p; q)(\cdot; \text{loc})$  for every  $f \in L^2$

$(p; q+1)(\cdot; \text{loc})$  such that  $\bar{\partial}f = 0$

Next, we need interior regularity properties in the sense of the Sobolev spaces  $W_s$

$(p; q+1)(\cdot; \text{loc})$ .

Our main result will be

Theorem 7.9 (regularity in Sobolev norms) Let  $\Omega$  be a pseudoconvex open set in

$\mathbb{C}^n$  and let  $0 \leq s \leq 1$ . Then the equation  $\bar{\partial}u = f$  has a solution  $u \in W_{s+1}$

$(p; q)(\cdot; \text{loc})$  for

every  $f \in W_s$

$(p; q+1)(\cdot; \text{loc})$  such that  $\bar{\partial}f = 0$ . Every solution of the equation  $\bar{\partial}u = f$  has

this property when  $q = 0$ .

8 The solution of the Levi problem for pseudoconvex domains in  $\mathbb{C}^n$

It is obvious, that each open set in  $\mathbb{C}^1$  is pseudoconvex and, in fact, also a domain of holomorphy. This important observation will give us the chance, to prove by induction over  $n$ , that each pseudoconvex domain in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  for  $n$  arbitrary is a domain of holomorphy.

This means, that we want to prove by induction over  $n$ , that one has:

Theorem 8.1 An open set in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  is a domain of holomorphy if it is pseudoconvex.

This is the claimed inverse of the Cartan-Thullen theorem. We will prove it by solving the  $\bar{\partial}$ -equation for all bidegrees  $(p; q)$ . We formulate this in:

Theorem 8.2 Let  $\Omega$  be an open set in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , such that the equation  $\bar{\partial}u = f$  has a solution

$u \in C^1(0; q)(\cdot)$  for every  $f \in C^1(0; q+1)(\cdot)$  such that  $\bar{\partial}f = 0$  ( $q = 0; \dots; n - 2$ ). Then  $\Omega$  is a domain of holomorphy.

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9 Approximation theorems

As we indicated already earlier the dualization of Lemma 7.4 with inequality 7.1 leads to an approximation result. The first technical statement of this is

Lemma 9.1 Let  $p$  be a strictly plurisubharmonic  $C^1$  function in  $\Omega$  such that

$K_c = \{z \in \Omega; p(z) \leq c\}$  for every  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  (9.1)

Then every function analytic in a neighborhood of  $K_0$  can be approximated in  $L^2$ -norm over  $K_0$  by functions in  $O(\cdot)$ .

We can reformulate this statement as

Theorem 9.2 (Approximation on plurisubharmonically convex hulls) Let  $\Omega$  be a

pseudoconvex open set in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and  $K$  a compact subset of  $\Omega$  such that  $\hat{K} \cap \Omega = K$ . Then

every function which is analytic in a neighborhood of  $K$  can be approximated uniformly

on  $K$  by functions in  $O(\cdot)$

The final form, into which we want to bring our approximation results, will be

Theorem 9.3 Let  $\Omega_1 \subset \Omega_2$  be domains of holomorphy. Then the following conditions are equivalent:

1. Every function in  $O(\Omega_1)$  can be approximated by functions in  $O(\Omega_2)$  uniformly on every compact subset of  $\Omega_1$  ( $\Omega_1$  is then called a Runge domain relative to  $\Omega_2$ )

2. For every compact set  $K \subset \Omega_1$  we have  $\hat{K} \cap \Omega_2 = \hat{K} \cap \Omega_1$

3. For every compact set  $K \subset \Omega_1$  we have  $\hat{K} \cap \Omega_2 \setminus \Omega_1 = \hat{K} \cap \Omega_1$

4. For every compact subset  $K \subset \Omega_1$  we have  $\hat{K} \cap \Omega_2 \setminus \Omega_1 \subset \Omega_1$

10 Supplement (If time allows:) Existence theorems in

$L^2$ -spaces

Estimates of weighted norms have deep consequences in the  $L^2$ -theory. If time allows

we will enter into this domain by proving a rather strong such estimate based on the following technical

Lemma 10.1 Let  $\Omega$  be a pseudoconvex open set in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and let  $\varphi$  be a real valued function in  $C^2(\Omega)$  such that

$$c \int_{\Omega} |\bar{\partial} u|^2 e^{-\varphi} \leq \int_{\Omega} |\bar{\partial} g|^2 e^{-\varphi} + \sum_{k=1}^n \int_{\Omega} |g_k|^2 e^{-\varphi} - c \int_{\Omega} |g|^2 e^{-\varphi} \quad (10.1)$$

where  $c$  is a positive continuous function in  $\Omega$ . If  $g \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{L}^{p,q+1})$  and  $\bar{\partial} g = 0$  it follows

that one can find a  $u \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{L}^{p,q})$  with  $\bar{\partial} u = g$  and

$$\int_{\Omega} |u|^2 e^{-\varphi} \leq 2 \int_{\Omega} |g|^2 e^{-\varphi} + c \int_{\Omega} |g|^2 e^{-\varphi} \quad (10.2)$$

provided that the right hand side is finite.

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We will deduce from this:

Theorem 10.2 Let  $\Omega$  be a pseudoconvex open set in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and  $\varphi$  any plurisubharmonic function in  $\Omega$ . For every  $g \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{L}^{p,q+1})$  with  $\bar{\partial} g = 0$  there is a solution  $u \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{L}^{p,q})$  of the equation  $\bar{\partial} u = g$  such that

$$\int_{\Omega} |u|^2 e^{-\varphi} \leq (1 + \int_{\Omega} |\bar{\partial} g|^2 e^{-\varphi}) \int_{\Omega} |g|^2 e^{-\varphi} \quad (10.3)$$

Remark 10.3 The essential new feature in this theorem is, that there is no smoothness condition on  $\varphi$ .

## Lectures in English