# CR Geometry, Mappings into Spheres, and Sums-Of-Squares Lecture I

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### General Theory.

- Lecture I: Introduction, Motivation, Basic CR Geometry.
- Lecture II: Abstract CR manifolds. Embedding problems.
- Lecture III: Baouendi-Treves Approximation. Extension of CR functions on embedded CR manifolds.

#### Levi Nondegenerate CR Hypersurfaces and their Mappings.

- Lecture IV: Normal forms. Bergman and Szegö Kernels.
- Lecture V: Pseudohermitian Geometry, Nondegenerate CR geometry. Geometry and Analysis of CR Mappings.
- Lecture VI: Mappings into Flat Models, Sums-Of-Squares, and the Gap Conjecture.

**1** No Riemann Mapping Theorem in higher dimensions

- 2 A Riemann Mapping Theorem in higher dimensions
- 3 CR structure of the boundary of a complex manifold
- 4 References



Classification of domains in the complex plane  $\mathbb C$  rests the following corner stone in complex analysis:

### Riemann Mapping Theorem

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}$  be a simply connected domain with  $\Omega \neq \mathbb{C}$ . Then, there exists a biholomorphism  $f: \Omega \to \mathbb{D}$ , where  $\mathbb{D} := \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1\}$  denotes the unit disk.

This is no longer true in higher dimensions.

### Theorem 0 (Poincaré)

There is no biholomorphic mapping  $f: \mathbb{D}^2 = \mathbb{D} \times \mathbb{D} \to \mathbb{B}_2$ , where  $\mathbb{D}^2 := \{(z, w): |z| < 1, |w| < 1\}$  is the unit bidisk in  $\mathbb{C}^2$  and  $\mathbb{B}_2 := \{(z, w): |z|^2 + |w|^2 < 1\}$  the unit ball.

Suppose there exists a biholomorphism  $f: \mathbb{D}^2 \to \mathbb{B}_2$ .

 $\implies \exists \text{ isomorphism } f^{c} \colon \operatorname{Aut}(\mathbb{B}_{2}) \to \operatorname{Aut}(\mathbb{D}^{2}), \quad f^{c}\phi = f^{-1} \circ \phi \circ f.$ 

Poincaré computed  $Aut(\mathbb{B}_2)$ , and  $Aut(\mathbb{D}^2)$ :

$$\operatorname{Aut}(\mathbb{B}_2)\cong {\it SU}(2,1)/\sim,\quad \operatorname{Aut}(\mathbb{D}^2)=({\it SU}(1,1)/\sim)^2.$$

In particular,

$$\dim_{\mathbb{R}} \operatorname{Aut}(\mathbb{B}_2) = 8, \quad \dim_{\mathbb{R}} \operatorname{Aut}(\mathbb{D}^2) = 6,$$

which means they cannot be isomorphic.

Assume that there exists a biholomorphic (or just proper holomorphic) mapping  $f: \mathbb{D}^2 \to \mathbb{B}_2$ .

- Show that the holomorphic mapping induces a "partially holomorphic mapping" (CR) of the boundaries f<sub>0</sub>: ∂(D<sup>2</sup>) → ∂B<sub>2</sub>.
- Show that the boundaries have different "invariants" preserved by  $f_0$ ; in this case,  $\partial(\mathbb{D}^2)$  contains non-trivial complex curves, but  $\partial \mathbb{B}_2$  does not.
- Conclude that no such mapping *f* can exists.

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Suppose there exists a proper holomorphic mapping  $f : \mathbb{D}^2 \to \mathbb{B}_2$ ;

$$f(z, w) = (f^1(z, w), f^2(z, w)).$$

Pick  $w_0 \in \partial \mathbb{D}$ , i.e.,  $|w_0| = 1$ , and  $w_n \in \mathbb{D}$  with  $w_n \to w_0$ . Set

$$A_n(z) = (A_n^1(z), A_n^2(z)) := (f^1(z, w_n), f^2(z, w_n)).$$

We note that  $A_n^i(z)$  are holomorphic in  $\mathbb{D}$ , and  $|A_n^i| \leq 1$ . By Montel's Theorem, we may assume (by going to a subsequence) that there are holomorphic functions  $A_0^i(z)$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  such that  $A_n^i \to A_0^i$ . **Claim.**  $||A_0(z)||^2 := |A_0^1(z)|^2 + |A_0^2(z)|^2 = 1$ . **Proof.** By properness!  $(z, w_n) \to \partial(\mathbb{D}^2)$ .  $\implies ||A_n(z)||^2 \to 1$ .  $\implies A_0 : \mathbb{D} \to \partial \mathbb{B}_2$  is a holomorphic map (analytic disk).

### Lemma (No analytic disks in $\partial \mathbb{B}_2$ )

If  $A_0 \colon \mathbb{D} \to \partial \mathbb{B}_2$  is holomorphic, then  $A_0(z)$  is constant.

**Proof.** Use  $Aut(\mathbb{B}_2)!$  By replacing  $A_0$  with  $UA_0$ ,  $U \in SU(2)$ , we may assume that  $A_0(0) = (1, 0)$ .

- $||A_0(z)||^2 = 1 \implies |A_0^1(z)|$  has maximum at z = 0.
- Maximum Principle  $\implies A_0^1(z)$  is constant, so  $A_0^1(z) = 1$ .
- $||A_0(z)||^2 = 1 \implies |A_0^2(z)|$  is identically 0.

We shall obtain a contradiction (proving Theorem 0) by showing

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = 0 \implies f \text{ not proper.}$$

## End of proof of Theorem 0; $\partial f / \partial z = 0$ .

Fix  $z = z_0 \in \mathbb{D}$ . Note that, for j = 1, 2,

$$\frac{\partial f^{j}}{\partial z}(z_{0},w) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|\zeta|=r<1} \frac{f^{j}(\zeta,w)d\zeta}{(\zeta-z_{0})^{2}}$$

is bounded as a function of  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ . Thus, there are nontangential limits  $h = (h^1, h^2)$ , with  $h^j \in L^{\infty}(\partial \mathbb{D})$ , such that for a.e.  $w_0 \in \partial \mathbb{D}$ ,

$$h(w_0) = \lim_{w \to w_0} \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}(z_0, w).$$

For  $w_n \to w_0$  as before, we have  $\partial f / \partial z(z_0, w_n) = A'_n(z_0) \to A'_0(z_0) = 0$ since  $A_0(z)$  is constant. It follows that the nontangential limit at  $w_0$ vanishes:  $h(w_0) = 0$ . Since this holds for all  $w_0$  where the nontangential limits exist (a.e.), a standard uniqueness result implies

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial z}(z_0,w)=0.$$

# Local biholomorphic equivalence of submanifolds.

### Equivalence fails locally!

### Proposition

Let  $U \subset \mathbb{C}^2$  be an open neighborhood of  $(z_0, w_0) \in \mathbb{C}^2$  with  $|z_0| < 1$  and  $|w_0| = 1$ . If  $f: U \to \mathbb{C}^2$  is a holomorphic mapping such that  $f(\partial \mathbb{D}^2 \cap U) \subset \partial \mathbb{B}_2$ , then f = f(w).

#### Definition

Let  $M_1, M_2 \subset \mathbb{C}^m$  be real submanifolds with  $p_1 \in M_1, p_2 \in M_2$ . If there exist an open neighborhood  $U \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  of  $p_1$  and a biholomorphic mapping  $f: U \to f(U) \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  such that  $f(p_1) = p_2$  and  $f(M_1 \cap U) = M_2 \cap f(U)$ , then  $(M_1, p_1)$  and  $(M_2, p_2)$  are said to be biholomorphically equivalent (BHE).

$$(M_1, p_1) \cong_{BHE} (M_2, p_2).$$

Remark: Different notions of equivalence! Analytic vs. smooth vs. formal.

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- All real-analytic curves in  $\mathbb{C}$  are locally BHE.  $(\gamma, p) \cong_{BHE} (\mathbb{R}, 0)$ .
- Real hypersurfaces in C<sup>m</sup>, m ≥ 2, are in general not locally BHE. (∂D<sup>2</sup>, p<sub>1</sub>) ≇<sub>BHE</sub> (∂B<sub>2</sub>, p<sub>2</sub>).
- For  $m \ge 2$ , a real hypersurface  $M \subset \mathbb{C}^m$  is in general not BHE to *itself* at two different points.  $(M, p_1) \not\cong_{BHE} (M, p_2)$  if  $p_1 \ne p_2$ .
- But  $\partial \mathbb{B}_m$  is.  $(\partial \mathbb{B}_m, p_1) \cong_{BHE} (\partial \mathbb{B}_m, p_2)$ , for all  $p_1, p_2 \in \partial \mathbb{B}_m$ . Such manifolds are called homogeneous.

#### Definition

A real-analytic hypersurface  $M \subset \mathbb{C}^m$  is locally spherical at  $p_1 \in M$  if  $(M, p_1) \cong_{BHE} (\partial \mathbb{B}_m, p_2)$ . (For smooth M use smooth CR equivalence.)

### Theorem (S.-S. Chern – S. Ji, '96 [2])

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^m$  be a bounded, simply connected domain. If  $\partial \Omega$  is locally spherical, then there exists a biholomorphic mapping  $f : \Omega \to \mathbb{B}_m$ .

### **Remarks:**

- If ∂Ω is not real-analytic, but smooth, then "locally spherical" at *p* ∈ ∂Ω can be defined as the existence of *p* ∈ *U* ⊂ ℂ<sup>n</sup> and a smooth mapping *f*: *U* ∩ Ω → ℂ<sup>n</sup> such that *f*: *U* ∩ Ω → *f*(*U* ∩ Ω) is biholomorphic and *f*(∂Ω ∩ *U*) ⊂ ∂ℝ<sub>n</sub>.
- In the real-analytic case, it in fact suffices that  $\partial\Omega$  is locally spherical *at some point*  $p \in \partial\Omega$ . The local biholomorphism then extends as a global biholomorphism  $f: \Omega \to \mathbb{B}_m$ .
- X. Huang and S. Ji [4] have proved a Riemann Mapping Theorem for a more general class of domains, where again the assumption is that the boundaries are locally equivalent.

## Recall [1]: Complex structure on a vector space.

A complex structure on  $\mathbb{R}^{2m}$  is a linear map  $J = J_p: T_p \mathbb{R}^{2m} \to T_p \mathbb{R}^{2m}$ such that  $J^2 = -I$ . J extends by linearity to  $\mathbb{C}T_p \mathbb{R}^{2m} := \mathbb{C} \otimes T_p \mathbb{R}^{2m}$  and splits it into an  $i = \sqrt{-1}$  and -i eigenspace,

$$\mathbb{C}T_p\mathbb{R}^{2m}=T_p^{1,0}\mathbb{R}^{2m}\oplus T_p^{0,1}\mathbb{R}^{2m}$$

with  $T_p^{0,1}\mathbb{R}^{2m} = T_p^{1,0}\mathbb{R}^{2m}$ . The standard complex structure in coordinates  $(x_1, y_1, \ldots, x_m, y_m)$  is given by

$$J(\partial/\partial x_j) = \partial/\partial y_j, \quad J(\partial/\partial y_j) = -\partial/\partial x_j,$$

and  $T_p^{1,0}\mathbb{R}^{2m}$  is spanned by  $\partial/\partial z_1, \ldots, \partial/\partial z_m$ ,

$$rac{\partial}{\partial z_j} := rac{1}{2} \left( rac{\partial}{\partial x_j} - i rac{\partial}{\partial x_j} 
ight).$$

The standard linear structure yields  $\mathbb{C}^m$  with complex coordinates

$$z = (z_1, \ldots, z_m), \quad z_j = x_j + i y_j.$$

## CR structure of a real hypersurface in a complex manifold.

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^m$  be a domain with complex coordinate  $z = (z_1, \ldots, z_m)$ . Let  $M \subset \Omega$  be a real hypersurface; i.e., defined locally near every  $p \in M$  by

$$M \cap V_{\rho} := \{z \in V_{\rho} \colon \rho(z,\overline{z}) = 0\},\$$

where  $p \in V_p \subset \Omega$ ,  $\rho \in C^{\kappa}(V_p, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $d\rho|_M \neq 0$ . For us,  $\kappa$  is either  $\infty$  ("smooth") or  $\omega$  ("real-analytic").

**Definition.** The CR tangent space to M at  $p \in M$  is given by

$$T^{0,1}_{\rho}M := \mathbb{C}T_{\rho}M \cap T^{0,1}_{\rho}\Omega; \quad T^{1,0}_{\rho}M := \overline{T^{0,1}_{\rho}M}.$$

$$L = \sum_{j=1}^{m} a_j \frac{\partial}{\partial z_j} \in T_p^{1,0} M \iff \sum_{j=1}^{m} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial z_j} (\rho, \bar{\rho}) a_j = 0.$$

# CR manifolds of hypersurface type.

T<sup>0,1</sup><sub>p</sub>M is a complex hyperplane in the *m*-dimensional complex vector space T<sup>0,1</sup><sub>p</sub>Ω. Thus, dim<sub>C</sub> T<sup>0,1</sup><sub>p</sub>M = m − 1 for all p ∈ M.

• Set 
$$n = m - 1$$
;  $M \subset \Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^{n+1}$ ,  $\dim_{\mathbb{R}} M = 2(n+1) - 1 = 2n + 1$ .

•  $T_p^{0,1}M$  form a rank *n* sub-bundle  $T^{0,1}M$  of the complexified tangent bundle  $\mathbb{C}TM$  (of rank 2n + 1). Sections of  $T^{0,1}M$  are called CR vector fields.

The following properties of  $T^{0,1}M$  are fundamental: (P1)  $T_p^{1,0}M \cap T_p^{0,1}M = \{0\};$ (P2)  $[T^{0,1}M, T^{0,1}M] \subset T^{0,1}M;$  i.e., if X, Y are CR vector fields, then the commutator [X, Y] is a CR vector field.

Note: (P1)  $\implies T_M^{1,0} \oplus T_p^{0,1}M$  is a complex hyperplane in  $\mathbb{C}T_pM$ .  $\implies$  $\mathbb{C}T_pM = T_p^{1,0}M \oplus T_p^{0,1}M \oplus \mathbb{C}\langle X_p \rangle$ , if  $X_p \in \mathbb{C}T_pM \setminus T_M^{1,0} \oplus T_p^{0,1}M$ .

**Definition.** *M* is a CR manifold (of hypersurface type) with CR bundle  $T^{0,1}M$ ; CR dim  $M := \dim_{\mathbb{C}} T_p^{0,1}M = n$ .

# The first invariant of a CR manifold; the Levi form.

- Since  $T^{1,0}M \oplus T^{0,1}M$  is a Hermitian sub-bundle of corank 1 in  $\mathbb{C}TM$ , it can be defined by a real 1-form  $\theta$ . Such  $\theta$  is called a "contact form". Any other is of form  $\tilde{\theta} = a\theta$ ,  $a \neq 0$  real function.
- On  $\Omega$ , the differential  $d = \partial + \overline{\partial}$ , where

$$\partial u := \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} \frac{\partial u}{\partial z_j} dz_j.$$

• By definition,  $T_p^{1,0}M = \{X_p \in T_p^{1,0}\mathbb{C}^{n+1} \colon \langle \partial \rho, X_p \rangle = 0\}$ . Since  $0 = d\rho = \partial \rho + \overline{\partial} \rho$  on M,

$$\theta := i\partial\rho|_{M} = -i\bar{\partial}\rho|_{M} = \overline{i\partial\rho|_{M}}$$

is real and annihilates  $T^{1,0}M \oplus T^{0,1}M$ . Thus,  $\theta = i\partial \rho|_M$  is a contact form on M.

# The Levi form.

**Definition:** The Levi form  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_p^{\theta}$  of M at p is the Hermitian form

$$\mathcal{L}(X_p, Y_p) := rac{i}{2} \langle heta, [X, \overline{Y}] 
angle |_p, \quad X_p, Y_p \in T_p^{1,0} M.$$

where X, Y are local sections of  $T^{1,0}M$  (anti-CR vector fields) extending  $X_p, Y_p$ .

• Independent of extensions (well-defined) by Cartan's identity:

$$\begin{split} \langle \omega, [Z, V] \rangle &= -2 \langle d\omega, Z \wedge V \rangle + Z \langle \omega, V \rangle - V \langle \omega, Z \rangle. \\ \implies \mathcal{L}(X_p, Y_p) &= -i \langle d\theta, X_p \wedge Y_p \rangle. \\ \text{If } \tilde{\theta} &= a\theta, \text{ then } \mathcal{L}_p^{\tilde{\theta}} = a(p) \mathcal{L}_p^{\theta} \text{ by} \\ &\qquad d\tilde{\theta} &= ad\theta + da \wedge \theta. \end{split}$$

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# In local coordinates: $M \subset \Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^{n+1}$ .

Choose local coordinates  $(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^n \times \mathbb{C}$  in  $\Omega$ , vanishing at  $p \in M$ :

$$\operatorname{Im} w = \phi(z, \overline{z}, \operatorname{Re} w), \quad \phi(z, 0, s) = \phi(0, \zeta, s) = O\left( \| (z, s) \|^{2K} \right).$$

Note:  $d\phi(0) = 0 \implies \mathbb{C}T_0M = \mathbb{C}\langle \partial/\partial z_j|_0, \partial/\partial \bar{z}_j|_0, \operatorname{Re}(\partial/\partial w|_0)\rangle$ . As a local frame for  $T^{1,0}M$ :

$$L_j := \frac{\partial}{\partial z_j} + \frac{2i\phi_{z_j}}{1 - i\phi_s} \frac{\partial}{\partial w}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n.$$

With  $\rho = \operatorname{Im} w - \phi$ , we may choose

$$\theta = i\partial \rho|_M = \frac{1}{2}(1-i\phi_s)dw|_M - i\sum_{j=1}^n \phi_{z_j}dz_j|_M.$$

We may choose  $(z, s) \in \mathbb{C}^n \times \mathbb{R}$  as local chart on *M*:

$$(z,w)\mapsto (z,w=s+i\phi(z,\bar{z},s)).$$

**Definition:** A function h on M is CR if  $\overline{L}h = 0$  for all CR vector fields  $\overline{L}$ . As a mapping  $h: M \to \mathbb{C}$ ,

$$h \text{ is CR} \iff h_*(T^{0,1}M) \subset T^{0,1}\mathbb{C}.$$
  
 $\zeta = h(z, \overline{z}, s) \implies h_*(\overline{L}) = (\overline{L}h)\frac{\partial}{\partial\zeta} + (\overline{L}\overline{h})\frac{\partial}{\partial\overline{\zeta}}.$ 

**Definition:** A mapping  $f: M \to M'$  is CR if  $f_*(T^{0,1}M) \subset T^{0,1}M'$ . If  $M' \subset \Omega' \subset \mathbb{C}^{m'}$ , then:

 $f = (f_1, \ldots, f_{m'}) \colon M \to M'$  is CR  $\iff$  each  $f_j$  is a CR function.

**Basic Example:** The restriction (or boundary value) of a holomorphic function/mapping to M is CR. The converse will be addressed in Lecture III.

## Invariance of Levi form under CR mapping $f: M \to M'$ .

Pick contact forms  $\theta$ ,  $\theta'$  on M, M'. Definition of CR  $\implies f^*\theta' = a\theta$ . For  $X_p, Y_p \in T_p^{1,0}M$ ,

$$\begin{split} (\mathcal{L}')_{f(p)}^{\theta'}(f_*X_p, f_*Y_p) &= \frac{i}{2} \langle \theta', [f_*X, \overline{f_*Y_p}] \rangle = -i \langle d\theta', f_*X_p \wedge \overline{f_*Y_p} \rangle \\ &= -i \langle f^*d\theta', X_p \wedge \overline{Y_p} \rangle = -i \langle d(a\theta), X_p \wedge \overline{Y_p} \rangle \\ &= \mathcal{L}_p^{a\theta}(X_p, Y_p) = a(p) \mathcal{L}_p^{\theta}(X_p, Y_p). \end{split}$$

In a local frame  $L_1, \ldots, L_n$  and contact form  $\theta$ ,  $T_{\rho}^{1,0}M \cong \mathbb{C}^n$ ,

$$\mathcal{L}^{\theta}(x,y) = xEy^*, \quad x = (x_1,\ldots,x_n), y = (y_1,\ldots,y_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n,$$

where  $E = E_p^{\theta}$  is the Hermitian  $n \times n$  matrix with matrix elements  $E_{jk} = i/2\langle \theta, [L_j, \bar{L}_k] \rangle$ . If  $f_* \cong B$ ,  $n \times n'$  matrix, then Levi form invariance:

$$aE = BE'B^*.$$

# Levi nondegenerate CR manifolds.

**Definitions. 1)** M is Levi nondegenerate at p if the Levi form  $\mathcal{L}_p$  is nondegenerate:  $Y_p \mapsto \mathcal{L}_p(\cdot, Y_p) \in (T^{1,0}M)^*$  is injective;  $\iff \det E_p \neq 0$ . **2)** M is strictly pseudoconvex at p is  $\mathcal{L}_p$  is positive definite (for some  $\theta$ ).

The "opposite" of Levi nondegenerate is Levi flat. *M* is Levi flat if the Levi form  $\mathcal{L}_p = 0$  for all  $p \in M$ .

#### Proposition

*M* is Levi flat  $\iff M$  is foliated by complex manifolds  $\Sigma_t$  with dim  $\Sigma_t = CR \dim M = n$ .

**Proof.**  $\mathcal{L}_p = 0 \implies \operatorname{Re}(T^{1,0}M \oplus T^{0,1}M)$  involutive. Frobenius Theorem  $\implies M$  foliated by  $\Sigma_t$  with  $T\Sigma_t = \operatorname{Re}(T^{1,0}M \oplus T^{0,1}M)$ . Newlander-Nirenberg Theorem  $\implies \Sigma_t$  are complex manifolds. Converse is easy. See [1] for FT and NNT; will also appear in Lecture II.

**Remark.**  $\partial \mathbb{B}_2$  is strictly pseudoconvex, and  $\partial \mathbb{D}^2$  is Levi flat (at smooth points).

## Levi form in terms of a defining function $\rho$ .

• 
$$T_p^{1,0}M \subset T_p^{1,0}\mathbb{C}^{n+1} \cong \mathbb{C}^{n+1}$$
 and  $x \in T_p^{1,0}M$  if

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n+1} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial z_j}(p) x_j = 0.$$

• Choose 
$$\theta = i\partial \rho|_M$$
.

$$egin{aligned} \mathcal{L}^{ heta}(X,Y) &= i \langle d heta, X \wedge Y 
angle &= \langle \partial ar{\partial} 
ho, X \wedge Y 
angle \ &= \sum_{j,k} rac{\partial^2 
ho}{\partial z_j ar{z}_k} (p) x_j ar{x}_k. \end{aligned}$$

• Thus,  $\mathcal{L}^{\theta} \sim (n+1) \times (n+1)$  matrix  $F = (\partial^2 \rho / \partial z_k \partial \bar{z}_k)$ , restricted to *n*-dimensional subspace  $T_p^{1,0} M \subset \mathbb{C}^{n+1}$ .

## Fefferman's complex Monge-Ampére Operator.

Consider the complex Monge-Ampére type operator in  $\mathbb{C}^{n+1}$ :

$$J(u) := (-1)^{n+1} \det egin{pmatrix} u & u_{ar{z}} \ u_z & u_{zar{z}} \end{pmatrix}.$$

#### Proposition

Let  $M \subset \Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^{n+1}$  be defined by  $\rho = 0$ . Then, M is Levi nondegenerate at  $\rho \in M \iff J(\rho)|_{\rho} \neq 0$ .

**Proof.** Let  $p \in M$ , and F denote  $(n+2) \times (n+2)$  matrix such that  $J(\rho) = (-1)^{n+1} \det F$ . Pick  $\tilde{x} = (c, x) \in \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}^{n+1}$ . Then,  $\tilde{x}F = 0 \iff x\rho_z = 0$  and  $c\rho_{\bar{z}} + x\rho_{z\bar{z}} = 0$ . Note that there is  $c \in \mathbb{C}$  such that  $c\rho_{\bar{z}} + x\rho_{z\bar{z}} = 0 \iff x\rho_{z\bar{z}}y^* = 0$  for all  $\rho_{\bar{z}}y^* = 0$ .

### Theorem (Fefferman, '76 [3])

Let  $M \subset \Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^{n+1}$  be strictly pseudoconvex, defined by  $\rho = 0$ . Then, there is a unique, mod  $O(\rho^{n+3})$ , defining function r for M such that  $J(r) = 1 + O(\rho^{n+2})$ .

**Remark:** Such r is called a Fefferman defining function for M. Useful for studying invariants of strictly pseudoconvex domains, notably their Bergman kernels.

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