

# Tasty Bits of Several Complex Variables (3)

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Complexification (traditional):

If  $U \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  is a domain,  $U \cap \mathbb{R}^n \neq \emptyset$ ,  $f, g \in \mathcal{O}(U)$ , and  $f = g$  on  $U \cap \mathbb{R}^n$ .

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Goes the other way too: If  $V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $f: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is real-analytic,  
 $\Rightarrow \exists U \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  open,  $V \subset U$ ,  $F \in \mathcal{O}(U)$ ,  $F|_V = f$ .

*Proof:* Given real power series  $\sum_{\alpha} c_{\alpha}(x - p)^{\alpha}$ , plug in complex numbers:  $\sum_{\alpha} c_{\alpha}(z - p)^{\alpha}$ .

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We identify  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and  $D \subset \mathbb{C}^n \times \mathbb{C}^n$  with  $\iota(z) = (z, \bar{z})$ .

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**Remark:** There is no good control of the neighborhood to which  $f$  extends. Even in 1D: Given any interval  $(a, b)$  and any neighborhood  $U$  of  $(a, b)$ , there is an  $F \in \mathcal{O}(U)$  that does not extend past any boundary point of  $U$ . So  $f = F|_{(a,b)}$  also cannot extend further.



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$\Phi, \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial z_k}, \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \zeta_k}$  vanish at  $0$  and  $w = \bar{\Phi}(\zeta, z, \Phi(z, \zeta, w))$ . A basis for  $T^{(0,1)} M$ :

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{w}} \quad \left( = \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \zeta_k} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{w}} \right), \quad k = 1, \dots, n-1.$$

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If  $f(z, w, \bar{z}, \bar{w})$  is a CR function, the holomorphic extension is  $f(z, w, \bar{z}, -2iz\bar{z} + w)$ , the  $\bar{z}$  will cancel.

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**Proposition:** *Suppose  $U \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  is open with smooth boundary and  $f: \bar{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is smooth, holomorphic on  $U$ . Then  $f|_{\partial U}$  is a smooth CR function.*

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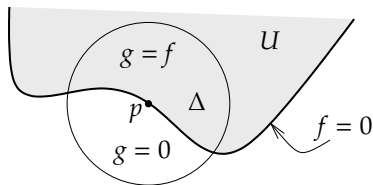
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*Proof:* Use Radó's theorem to extend as 0 outside ( $g$  in the picture), then use identity.  $\square$

**Theorem (Radó):** If  $U \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  is open and  $g: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  continuous and holomorphic on

$$U' = \{z \in U : g(z) \neq 0\}.$$

Then  $g \in \mathcal{O}(U)$ .



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**Example:** Define the function  $f \in \overline{\mathbb{B}}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  by

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Then  $f$  is smooth on  $\overline{\mathbb{B}}_2$ , holomorphic on  $\mathbb{B}_2$ , but near  $(-1, 0)$  is not a restriction of a holomorphic function (only one sided extension).

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Baouendi–Trèves uses the same idea on a totally real subset of  $M$  and slightly modified version of the above.



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**Remark:** So if the Levi-form has eigenvalues of both signs, then every CR function is a restriction of a holomorphic function.

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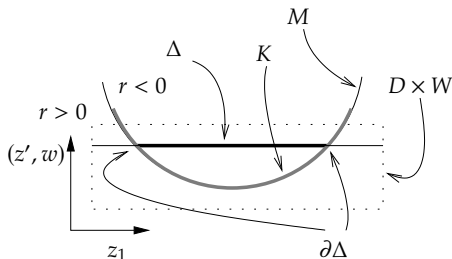
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One can fill a one-sided  
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**Remark:** These ideas led Lewy to find the example of the unsolvable PDE.

Another application is a special case of the following theorem:

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**Example:** Similarly, not true in general if  $U$  is unbounded. If  $U = \mathbb{D} \times \mathbb{C} \subset \mathbb{C}^2$ , then  $\bar{z}_1$  is a CR function, but does not extend inside for the same reason.