

Singular Levi-flat hypersurfaces (3)

Jiří Lebl

Departemento pri Matematiko de Oklahoma Ŝtata Universitato

Small review:

For a CR manifold M , a smooth function $f: M \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a *CR function* if

$$vf = 0$$

for all vector fields $v \in \Gamma(T^{(0,1)}M)$.

There exist smooth CR functions that are not restrictions of holomorphic functions, but we will show in just a bit that all real-analytic CR functions on a real-analytic CR submanifold are.

Then we will completely locally classify **ALL** real-analytic (nonsingular) Levi-flat hypersurfaces.

Suppose $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a real-analytic real hypersurface given in $(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} \times \mathbb{C}$ as

$$\operatorname{Im} w = \varphi(z, \bar{z}, \operatorname{Re} w) \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{w - \bar{w}}{2i} = \varphi\left(z, \bar{z}, \frac{w + \bar{w}}{2}\right),$$

with the $\varphi(0)$ and $d\varphi(0) = 0$.

Suppose $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a real-analytic real hypersurface given in $(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} \times \mathbb{C}$ as

$$\operatorname{Im} w = \varphi(z, \bar{z}, \operatorname{Re} w) \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{w - \bar{w}}{2i} = \varphi\left(z, \bar{z}, \frac{w + \bar{w}}{2}\right),$$

with the $\varphi(0)$ and $d\varphi(0) = 0$.

Treat a defining equation as a function of z, \bar{z}, w , and \bar{w} independently.

Suppose $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a real-analytic real hypersurface given in $(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} \times \mathbb{C}$ as

$$\operatorname{Im} w = \varphi(z, \bar{z}, \operatorname{Re} w) \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{w - \bar{w}}{2i} = \varphi\left(z, \bar{z}, \frac{w + \bar{w}}{2}\right),$$

with the $\varphi(0)$ and $d\varphi(0) = 0$.

Treat a defining equation as a function of z, \bar{z}, w , and \bar{w} independently. Holomorphic implicit function theorem implies a holomorphic Q such that M is given by

$$\bar{w} = Q(z, \bar{z}, w) \quad (\text{derivatives of } Q \text{ in } z \text{ and } \bar{z} \text{ vanish at } 0)$$

Suppose $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a real-analytic real hypersurface given in $(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} \times \mathbb{C}$ as

$$\operatorname{Im} w = \varphi(z, \bar{z}, \operatorname{Re} w) \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{w - \bar{w}}{2i} = \varphi\left(z, \bar{z}, \frac{w + \bar{w}}{2}\right),$$

with the $\varphi(0)$ and $d\varphi(0) = 0$.

Treat a defining equation as a function of z, \bar{z}, w , and \bar{w} independently. Holomorphic implicit function theorem implies a holomorphic Q such that M is given by

$$\bar{w} = Q(z, \bar{z}, w) \quad (\text{derivatives of } Q \text{ in } z \text{ and } \bar{z} \text{ vanish at } 0)$$

Similarly $w = \bar{Q}(\bar{z}, z, \bar{w})$ gives the same set.

Suppose $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a real-analytic real hypersurface given in $(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} \times \mathbb{C}$ as

$$\operatorname{Im} w = \varphi(z, \bar{z}, \operatorname{Re} w) \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{w - \bar{w}}{2i} = \varphi\left(z, \bar{z}, \frac{w + \bar{w}}{2}\right),$$

with the $\varphi(0)$ and $d\varphi(0) = 0$.

Treat a defining equation as a function of z, \bar{z}, w , and \bar{w} independently. Holomorphic implicit function theorem implies a holomorphic Q such that M is given by

$$\bar{w} = Q(z, \bar{z}, w) \quad (\text{derivatives of } Q \text{ in } z \text{ and } \bar{z} \text{ vanish at } 0)$$

Similarly $w = \bar{Q}(\bar{z}, z, \bar{w})$ gives the same set. We have

$$\bar{w} = Q(z, \bar{z}, \bar{Q}(\bar{z}, z, \bar{w})) \quad \text{for all } z, \bar{z}, \bar{w}.$$

Suppose $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a real-analytic real hypersurface given in $(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} \times \mathbb{C}$ as

$$\operatorname{Im} w = \varphi(z, \bar{z}, \operatorname{Re} w) \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{w - \bar{w}}{2i} = \varphi\left(z, \bar{z}, \frac{w + \bar{w}}{2}\right),$$

with the $\varphi(0)$ and $d\varphi(0) = 0$.

Treat a defining equation as a function of z, \bar{z}, w , and \bar{w} independently. Holomorphic implicit function theorem implies a holomorphic Q such that M is given by

$$\bar{w} = Q(z, \bar{z}, w) \quad (\text{derivatives of } Q \text{ in } z \text{ and } \bar{z} \text{ vanish at } 0)$$

Similarly $w = \bar{Q}(\bar{z}, z, \bar{w})$ gives the same set. We have

$$\bar{w} = Q(z, \bar{z}, \bar{Q}(\bar{z}, z, \bar{w})) \quad \text{for all } z, \bar{z}, \bar{w}.$$

We can also find a basis for the vector fields in $T^{(0,1)}M$:

That is, vector fields in $T^{(0,1)}\mathbb{C}^n$ that vanish on the function $\bar{w} - Q(z, \bar{z}, w)$. The following will work:

$$X_k = \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{w}}.$$

Theorem (Severi)

If $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a real-analytic CR submanifold. Suppose that $f: M \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a real-analytic CR function. For every $p \in M$, there exists a holomorphic function F defined in a neighbourhood of p such that F equals f on M .

Theorem (Severi)

If $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a real-analytic CR submanifold. Suppose that $f: M \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a real-analytic CR function. For every $p \in M$, there exists a holomorphic function F defined in a neighbourhood of p such that F equals f on M .

Sketch of proof for hypersurface:

Theorem (Severi)

If $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a real-analytic CR submanifold. Suppose that $f: M \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a real-analytic CR function. For every $p \in M$, there exists a holomorphic function F defined in a neighbourhood of p such that F equals f on M .

Sketch of proof for hypersurface:

Write $f(z, \bar{z}, w, \bar{w})$ for any old real-analytic extension.

Theorem (Severi)

If $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a real-analytic CR submanifold. Suppose that $f: M \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a real-analytic CR function. For every $p \in M$, there exists a holomorphic function F defined in a neighbourhood of p such that F equals f on M .

Sketch of proof for hypersurface:

Write $f(z, \bar{z}, w, \bar{w})$ for any old real-analytic extension.

Then consider $f(z, \bar{z}, w, Q(z, \bar{z}, w))$ instead.

Theorem (Severi)

If $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a real-analytic CR submanifold. Suppose that $f: M \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a real-analytic CR function. For every $p \in M$, there exists a holomorphic function F defined in a neighbourhood of p such that F equals f on M .

Sketch of proof for hypersurface:

Write $f(z, \bar{z}, w, \bar{w})$ for any old real-analytic extension.

Then consider $f(z, \bar{z}, w, Q(z, \bar{z}, w))$ instead.

WLOG, we can treat f as an analytic function of z, \bar{z} , and w .

Theorem (Severi)

If $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a real-analytic CR submanifold. Suppose that $f: M \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a real-analytic CR function. For every $p \in M$, there exists a holomorphic function F defined in a neighbourhood of p such that F equals f on M .

Sketch of proof for hypersurface:

Write $f(z, \bar{z}, w, \bar{w})$ for any old real-analytic extension.

Then consider $f(z, \bar{z}, w, Q(z, \bar{z}, w))$ instead.

WLOG, we can treat f as an analytic function of z, \bar{z} , and w .

On M :

$$0 = X_k f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{w}} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}_k}.$$

Theorem (Severi)

If $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a real-analytic CR submanifold. Suppose that $f: M \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a real-analytic CR function. For every $p \in M$, there exists a holomorphic function F defined in a neighbourhood of p such that F equals f on M .

Sketch of proof for hypersurface:

Write $f(z, \bar{z}, w, \bar{w})$ for any old real-analytic extension.

Then consider $f(z, \bar{z}, w, Q(z, \bar{z}, w))$ instead.

WLOG, we can treat f as an analytic function of z, \bar{z} , and w .

On M :

$$0 = X_k f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{w}} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}_k}.$$

For any fixed z , we have a holomorphic function (in w) $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}_k}$ that is zero on a curve in \mathbb{C} so it is identically zero.

Theorem (Severi)

If $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a real-analytic CR submanifold. Suppose that $f: M \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a real-analytic CR function. For every $p \in M$, there exists a holomorphic function F defined in a neighbourhood of p such that F equals f on M .

Sketch of proof for hypersurface:

Write $f(z, \bar{z}, w, \bar{w})$ for any old real-analytic extension.

Then consider $f(z, \bar{z}, w, Q(z, \bar{z}, w))$ instead.

WLOG, we can treat f as an analytic function of z, \bar{z} , and w .

On M :

$$0 = X_k f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{w}} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}_k}.$$

For any fixed z , we have a holomorphic function (in w) $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}_k}$ that is zero on a curve in \mathbb{C} so it is identically zero.

So f is holomorphic in both z and w . □

Real hypersurface $M = \{r = 0\} \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is *Levi-flat* at p if

Real hypersurface $M = \{r = 0\} \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is *Levi-flat* at p if

- the Levi form is zero: $X_p^* L_p X_p = 0$ for all $X_p \in T_p^{(1,0)} M$

Real hypersurface $M = \{r = 0\} \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is *Levi-flat* at p if

• the Levi form is zero: $X_p^* L_p X_p = 0$ for all $X_p \in T_p^{(1,0)} M$

• or equivalently
$$\sum_{k=1, \ell=1}^n \bar{a}_k a_\ell \frac{\partial^2 r}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial z_\ell} \Big|_p = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \sum_{k=1}^n a_k \frac{\partial r}{\partial z_k} \Big|_p = 0$$

Real hypersurface $M = \{r = 0\} \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is *Levi-flat* at p if

- the Levi form is zero: $X_p^* L_p X_p = 0$ for all $X_p \in T_p^{(1,0)} M$

- or equivalently
$$\sum_{k=1, \ell=1}^n \bar{a}_k a_\ell \frac{\partial^2 r}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial z_\ell} \Big|_p = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \sum_{k=1}^n a_k \frac{\partial r}{\partial z_k} \Big|_p = 0$$

- or equivalently (for real-analytic M by $\bar{w} = Q(z, \bar{z}, w)$ as before)

$$\frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial z_\ell} \Big|_0 = 0 \quad \text{for all } k, \ell = 1, \dots, n-1$$

Real hypersurface $M = \{r = 0\} \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is *Levi-flat* at p if

- the Levi form is zero: $X_p^* L_p X_p = 0$ for all $X_p \in T_p^{(1,0)} M$

- or equivalently
$$\sum_{k=1, \ell=1}^n \bar{a}_k a_\ell \frac{\partial^2 r}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial z_\ell} \Big|_p = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \sum_{k=1}^n a_k \frac{\partial r}{\partial z_k} \Big|_p = 0$$

- or equivalently (for real-analytic M by $\bar{w} = Q(z, \bar{z}, w)$ as before)

$$\frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial z_\ell} \Big|_0 = 0 \quad \text{for all } k, \ell = 1, \dots, n-1$$

- or equivalently $\mathcal{L}(X_p, \bar{X}_p) = \pi_p([X, \bar{X}]|_p) = 0$ for all $X \in T^{(1,0)} M$

Real hypersurface $M = \{r = 0\} \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is *Levi-flat* at p if

- the Levi form is zero: $X_p^* L_p X_p = 0$ for all $X_p \in T_p^{(1,0)} M$

- or equivalently
$$\sum_{k=1, \ell=1}^n \bar{a}_k a_\ell \frac{\partial^2 r}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial z_\ell} \Big|_p = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \sum_{k=1}^n a_k \frac{\partial r}{\partial z_k} \Big|_p = 0$$

- or equivalently (for real-analytic M by $\bar{w} = Q(z, \bar{z}, w)$ as before)

$$\frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial z_\ell} \Big|_0 = 0 \quad \text{for all } k, \ell = 1, \dots, n-1$$

- or equivalently $\mathcal{L}(X_p, \bar{X}_p) = \pi_p([X, \bar{X}]|_p) = 0$ for all $X \in T^{(1,0)} M$

- or equivalently, there exists a biholomorphic change of coordinates taking p to 0 such that in the new coordinates M is given by

$$\text{Im } w = O(3)$$

Real hypersurface $M = \{r = 0\} \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is *Levi-flat* at p if

- the Levi form is zero: $X_p^* L_p X_p = 0$ for all $X_p \in T_p^{(1,0)} M$

- or equivalently
$$\sum_{k=1, \ell=1}^n \bar{a}_k a_\ell \frac{\partial^2 r}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial z_\ell} \Big|_p = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \sum_{k=1}^n a_k \frac{\partial r}{\partial z_k} \Big|_p = 0$$

- or equivalently (for real-analytic M by $\bar{w} = Q(z, \bar{z}, w)$ as before)

$$\frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial z_\ell} \Big|_0 = 0 \quad \text{for all } k, \ell = 1, \dots, n-1$$

- or equivalently $\mathcal{L}(X_p, \bar{X}_p) = \pi_p([X, \bar{X}]|_p) = 0$ for all $X \in T^{(1,0)} M$

- or equivalently, there exists a biholomorphic change of coordinates taking p to 0 such that in the new coordinates M is given by

$$\text{Im } w = O(3)$$

- or equivalently, M is “pseudoconvex from both sides”: M divides space near p into two pieces both of which are pseudoconvex at p .

Proposition: Suppose M is Levi-flat, then $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is involutive.

Proposition: Suppose M is Levi-flat, then $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is involutive.

If $X, Y \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$, then $[X, Y] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$ and $[\bar{X}, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(0,1)}M)$.

Proposition: Suppose M is Levi-flat, then $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is involutive.

If $X, Y \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$, then $[X, Y] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$ and $[\bar{X}, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(0,1)}M)$.
As M is Levi-flat, $\pi_p([X, \bar{Y}]|_p) = 0$, so $[X, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M)$.

Proposition: Suppose M is Levi-flat, then $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is involutive.

If $X, Y \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$, then $[X, Y] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$ and $[\bar{X}, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(0,1)}M)$. As M is Levi-flat, $\pi_p([X, \bar{Y}]|_p) = 0$, so $[X, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M)$.

In fact, the Levi-form precisely measures how involutive or not $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is.

Proposition: Suppose M is Levi-flat, then $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is involutive.

If $X, Y \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$, then $[X, Y] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$ and $[\bar{X}, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(0,1)}M)$. As M is Levi-flat, $\pi_p([X, \bar{Y}]|_p) = 0$, so $[X, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M)$.

In fact, the Levi-form precisely measures how involutive or not $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is.

A computation may be instructive:

Proposition: Suppose M is Levi-flat, then $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is involutive.

If $X, Y \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$, then $[X, Y] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$ and $[\bar{X}, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(0,1)}M)$. As M is Levi-flat, $\pi_p([X, \bar{Y}]|_p) = 0$, so $[X, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M)$.

In fact, the Levi-form precisely measures how involutive or not $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is.

A computation may be instructive:

For simplicity, suppose M is real-analytic, $\bar{w} = Q(z, \bar{z}, w)$.

Proposition: Suppose M is Levi-flat, then $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is involutive.

If $X, Y \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$, then $[X, Y] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$ and $[\bar{X}, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(0,1)}M)$. As M is Levi-flat, $\pi_p([X, \bar{Y}]|_p) = 0$, so $[X, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M)$.

In fact, the Levi-form precisely measures how involutive or not $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is.

A computation may be instructive:

For simplicity, suppose M is real-analytic, $\bar{w} = Q(z, \bar{z}, w)$.

$$[X_k, \bar{X}_\ell]$$

Proposition: Suppose M is Levi-flat, then $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is involutive.

If $X, Y \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$, then $[X, Y] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$ and $[\bar{X}, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(0,1)}M)$. As M is Levi-flat, $\pi_p([X, \bar{Y}]|_p) = 0$, so $[X, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M)$.

In fact, the Levi-form precisely measures how involutive or not $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is.

A computation may be instructive:

For simplicity, suppose M is real-analytic, $\bar{w} = Q(z, \bar{z}, w)$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 [X_k, \bar{X}_\ell] &= \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{w}} \right) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z_\ell} + \frac{\partial \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell} \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \right) \\
 &\quad - \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z_\ell} + \frac{\partial \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell} \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \right) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{w}} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Proposition: Suppose M is Levi-flat, then $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is involutive.

If $X, Y \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$, then $[X, Y] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$ and $[\bar{X}, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(0,1)}M)$. As M is Levi-flat, $\pi_p([X, \bar{Y}]|_p) = 0$, so $[X, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M)$.

In fact, the Levi-form precisely measures how involutive or not $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is.

A computation may be instructive:

For simplicity, suppose M is real-analytic, $\bar{w} = Q(z, \bar{z}, w)$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 [X_k, \bar{X}_\ell] &= \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{w}} \right) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z_\ell} + \frac{\partial \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell} \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \right) \\
 &\quad - \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z_\ell} + \frac{\partial \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell} \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \right) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{w}} \right) \\
 &= \left(\frac{\partial^2 \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell \partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell \partial \bar{w}} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial w} - \left(\frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial z_\ell} + \frac{\partial \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell} \frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial w} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{w}}
 \end{aligned}$$

Proposition: Suppose M is Levi-flat, then $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is involutive.

If $X, Y \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$, then $[X, Y] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$ and $[\bar{X}, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(0,1)}M)$. As M is Levi-flat, $\pi_p([X, \bar{Y}]|_p) = 0$, so $[X, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M)$.

In fact, the Levi-form precisely measures how involutive or not $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is.

A computation may be instructive:

For simplicity, suppose M is real-analytic, $\bar{w} = Q(z, \bar{z}, w)$.

$$\begin{aligned} [X_k, \bar{X}_\ell] &= \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{w}} \right) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z_\ell} + \frac{\partial \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell} \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \right) \\ &\quad - \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z_\ell} + \frac{\partial \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell} \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \right) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{w}} \right) \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial^2 \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell \partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell \partial \bar{w}} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial w} - \left(\frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial z_\ell} + \frac{\partial \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell} \frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial w} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{w}} \end{aligned}$$

$\frac{\partial \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell} \Big|_0 = 0$, and Levi-flat at the origin implies $\frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial z_\ell} \Big|_0 = \frac{\partial^2 \bar{Q}}{\partial z_k \partial \bar{z}_\ell} \Big|_0 = 0$.

Proposition: Suppose M is Levi-flat, then $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is involutive.

If $X, Y \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$, then $[X, Y] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$ and $[\bar{X}, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(0,1)}M)$. As M is Levi-flat, $\pi_p([X, \bar{Y}]|_p) = 0$, so $[X, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M)$.

In fact, the Levi-form precisely measures how involutive or not $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is.

A computation may be instructive:

For simplicity, suppose M is real-analytic, $\bar{w} = Q(z, \bar{z}, w)$.

$$\begin{aligned} [X_k, \bar{X}_\ell] &= \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{w}} \right) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z_\ell} + \frac{\partial \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell} \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \right) \\ &\quad - \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z_\ell} + \frac{\partial \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell} \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \right) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{w}} \right) \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial^2 \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell \partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell \partial \bar{w}} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial w} - \left(\frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial z_\ell} + \frac{\partial \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell} \frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial w} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{w}} \end{aligned}$$

$\frac{\partial \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell} \Big|_0 = 0$, and Levi-flat at the origin implies $\frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial z_\ell} \Big|_0 = \frac{\partial^2 \bar{Q}}{\partial z_k \partial \bar{z}_\ell} \Big|_0 = 0$.

So $[X_k, \bar{X}_\ell] \Big|_0 = 0$.

So for any smooth Levi-flat M , $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is involutive.

So for any smooth Levi-flat M , $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is involutive.

Frobenius theorem says that M is foliated by manifolds whose complexified tangent spaces are $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$.

So for any smooth Levi-flat M , $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is involutive.

Frobenius theorem says that M is foliated by manifolds whose complexified tangent spaces are $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$.

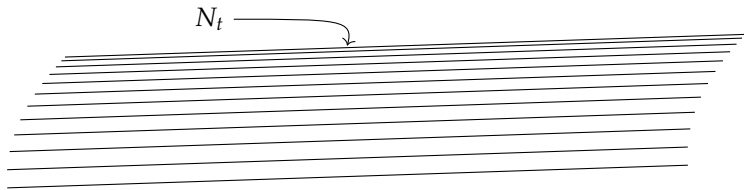
This foliation is called the *Levi-foliation*.

So for any smooth Levi-flat M , $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is involutive.

Frobenius theorem says that M is foliated by manifolds whose complexified tangent spaces are $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$.

This foliation is called the *Levi-foliation*.

Suppose M is a hypersurface. This means that (locally) there exists a smooth function $f: M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $N_t = f^{-1}(t)$ are submanifolds such that $\mathbb{C} \otimes TN_t = T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$.

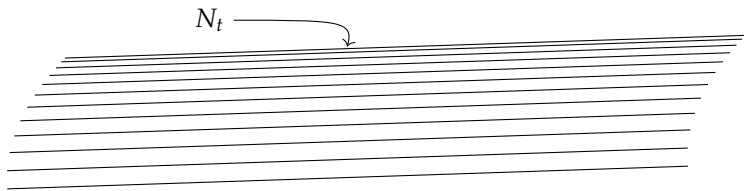


So for any smooth Levi-flat M , $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is involutive.

Frobenius theorem says that M is foliated by manifolds whose complexified tangent spaces are $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$.

This foliation is called the *Levi-foliation*.

Suppose M is a hypersurface. This means that (locally) there exists a smooth function $f: M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $N_t = f^{-1}(t)$ are submanifolds such that $\mathbb{C} \otimes TN_t = T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$.



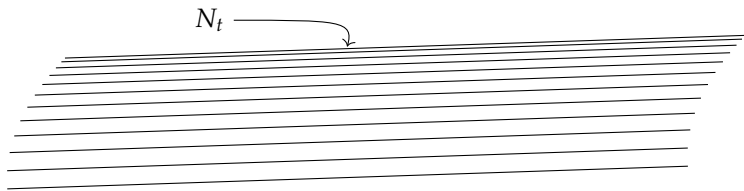
By the Newlander–Nirenberg theorem, each N_t is a complex manifold.

So for any smooth Levi-flat M , $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$ is involutive.

Frobenius theorem says that M is foliated by manifolds whose complexified tangent spaces are $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$.

This foliation is called the *Levi-foliation*.

Suppose M is a hypersurface. This means that (locally) there exists a smooth function $f: M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $N_t = f^{-1}(t)$ are submanifolds such that $\mathbb{C} \otimes TN_t = T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$.



By the Newlander–Nirenberg theorem, each N_t is a complex manifold.

An example: $M = \{\text{Im } w = 0\}$, here $f = \text{Re } w$.

Theorem (Cartan)

If $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a Levi-flat real-analytic smooth hypersurface, then near each point $p \in M$, there exist local holomorphic coordinates $(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} \times \mathbb{C}$ vanishing at p such that M near p is given by

$$\operatorname{Im} w = 0.$$

The leaves of the Levi-foliation are given by

$$\{(z, w) : w = t\} \quad \text{for } t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Theorem (Cartan)

If $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a Levi-flat real-analytic smooth hypersurface, then near each point $p \in M$, there exist local holomorphic coordinates $(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} \times \mathbb{C}$ vanishing at p such that M near p is given by

$$\operatorname{Im} w = 0.$$

The leaves of the Levi-foliation are given by

$$\{(z, w) : w = t\} \quad \text{for } t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Sketch of proof: Frobenius gives (locally) a real-analytic real-valued function f with nonvanishing derivative giving the foliation.

Theorem (Cartan)

If $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a Levi-flat real-analytic smooth hypersurface, then near each point $p \in M$, there exist local holomorphic coordinates $(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} \times \mathbb{C}$ vanishing at p such that M near p is given by

$$\operatorname{Im} w = 0.$$

The leaves of the Levi-foliation are given by

$$\{(z, w) : w = t\} \quad \text{for } t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Sketch of proof: Frobenius gives (locally) a real-analytic real-valued function f with nonvanishing derivative giving the foliation.

As f is constant along the leaves, $Xf = 0$ for all $X \in \Gamma(T^{(0,1)}M)$ in particular, so f is CR.

Theorem (Cartan)

If $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a Levi-flat real-analytic smooth hypersurface, then near each point $p \in M$, there exist local holomorphic coordinates $(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} \times \mathbb{C}$ vanishing at p such that M near p is given by

$$\operatorname{Im} w = 0.$$

The leaves of the Levi-foliation are given by

$$\{(z, w) : w = t\} \quad \text{for } t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Sketch of proof: Frobenius gives (locally) a real-analytic real-valued function f with nonvanishing derivative giving the foliation.

As f is constant along the leaves, $Xf = 0$ for all $X \in \Gamma(T^{(0,1)}M)$ in particular, so f is CR.

Severi says that f is the restriction to M of a holomorphic function.

Theorem (Cartan)

If $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a Levi-flat real-analytic smooth hypersurface, then near each point $p \in M$, there exist local holomorphic coordinates $(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} \times \mathbb{C}$ vanishing at p such that M near p is given by

$$\operatorname{Im} w = 0.$$

The leaves of the Levi-foliation are given by

$$\{(z, w) : w = t\} \quad \text{for } t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Sketch of proof: Frobenius gives (locally) a real-analytic real-valued function f with nonvanishing derivative giving the foliation.

As f is constant along the leaves, $Xf = 0$ for all $X \in \Gamma(T^{(0,1)}M)$ in particular, so f is CR.

Severi says that f is the restriction to M of a holomorphic function.

Change variables to make the extended f be the w . □

Exercise: Give the right statement and proof for higher codimension CR manifolds.

Remarks:

- 1) There are no local biholomorphic invariants in the nonsingular real-analytic case.

Remarks:

- 1) There are no local biholomorphic invariants in the nonsingular real-analytic case.
- 2) No such normalization in the C^∞ smooth case.

Remarks:

1) There are no local biholomorphic invariants in the nonsingular real-analytic case.

2) No such normalization in the C^∞ smooth case.

Exercise: Suppose the f that one gets from Frobenius extends as a holomorphic function (it does not always do that), what sort of normalization do you get?

Remarks:

1) There are no local biholomorphic invariants in the nonsingular real-analytic case.

2) No such normalization in the C^∞ smooth case.

Exercise: Suppose the f that one gets from Frobenius extends as a holomorphic function (it does not always do that), what sort of normalization do you get?

Exercise: Alternatively, in the C^∞ case, is it possible to get a “bad” f from Frobenius, one that doesn't extend as a holomorphic function, even if there is another one that does?

Remarks:

1) There are no local biholomorphic invariants in the nonsingular real-analytic case.

2) No such normalization in the C^∞ smooth case.

Exercise: Suppose the f that one gets from Frobenius extends as a holomorphic function (it does not always do that), what sort of normalization do you get?

Exercise: Alternatively, in the C^∞ case, is it possible to get a “bad” f from Frobenius, one that doesn't extend as a holomorphic function, even if there is another one that does?

3) Given any holomorphic function f , the set

$$\{z \in \mathbb{C}^n : \operatorname{Im} f(z) = 0\},$$

is a nonsingular Levi-flat hypersurface for all points where the derivative of f does not vanish

Remarks:

1) There are no local biholomorphic invariants in the nonsingular real-analytic case.

2) No such normalization in the C^∞ smooth case.

Exercise: Suppose the f that one gets from Frobenius extends as a holomorphic function (it does not always do that), what sort of normalization do you get?

Exercise: Alternatively, in the C^∞ case, is it possible to get a “bad” f from Frobenius, one that doesn’t extend as a holomorphic function, even if there is another one that does?

3) Given any holomorphic function f , the set

$$\{z \in \mathbb{C}^n : \operatorname{Im} f(z) = 0\},$$

is a nonsingular Levi-flat hypersurface for all points where the derivative of f does not vanish (it is singular if $df = 0$).